

Tab 1	CS/SB 716 by CA, Bennett (CO-INTRODUCERS) Evers; (Similar to CS/CS/CS/CS/H 0503) Environmental Regulation					
737914	D	S	RCS	EP, Jones	Delete everything after	02/06 08:02 PM
817792	AA	S	RCS	EP, Latvala	Delete L.745:	02/06 08:02 PM
Tab 2	CS/SB 1254 by AG, Siplin; (Similar to CS/CS/H 7021) Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services					
568672	A	S	RCS	EP, Sobel	btw L.1097 - 1098:	02/06 08:02 PM
266358	A	S	RCS	EP, Sobel	btw L.1419 - 1420:	02/06 08:02 PM
Tab 3	SB 100 by Siplin (CO-INTRODUCERS) Lynn; (Identical to H 0229) Unclaimed Deposits Held By Utilities					
331156	D	S	RCS	EP, Dean	Delete everything after	02/06 08:02 PM
838412	A	S	RCS	EP, Sobel	Delete L.23 - 24:	02/06 08:02 PM
Tab 4	SB 1032 by Benacquisto; (Identical to H 0747) Thermal Efficiency Standards					
483824	D	S		EP, Oelrich	Delete everything after	01/27 04:30 PM
Tab 5	SB 1456 by Diaz de la Portilla; (Similar to CS/H 1117) Conservation of Wildlife					
771374	D	S	FAV	EP, Detert	Delete everything after	02/06 08:11 PM
Tab 6	CS/CS/SB 268 by CM, TR, Wise; (Similar to CS/H 0181) Sponsorship of State Greenways and Trails					
517104	D	S	FAV	EP, Latvala	Delete everything after	02/14 12:05 PM
258276	AA	S	WD	EP, Latvala	Delete L.30 - 41:	02/14 12:05 PM
403976	AA	S	FAV	EP, Latvala	Delete L.43 - 49:	02/14 12:05 PM
Tab 7	SB 1086 by Garcia; (Compare to CS/H 0639) Reclaimed Water					
112952	D	S	RCS	EP, Latvala	Delete everything after	02/06 08:02 PM
Tab 8	SB 626 by Richter; (Identical to H 0333) Collection and Disposal of Household Pharmaceuticals					
631912	A	S	FAV	EP, Detert	Delete L.37:	02/06 08:11 PM
Tab 9	SB 624 by Richter; (Identical to H 0335) Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund/DEP					
304776	A	S	FAV	EP, Detert	Delete L.37:	02/06 08:11 PM
Tab 10	SB 958 by Oelrich; (Identical to H 0773) Airboats					
514606	D	S	FAV	EP, Oelrich	Delete everything after	02/14 12:05 PM
Tab 11	CS/SB 604 by AG, Dean (CO-INTRODUCERS) Bennett, Gaetz; (Compare to CS/CS/H 0421) Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer Application					
152126	D	S	RS	EP, Latvala	Delete everything after	02/06 08:02 PM
665304	SD	S	FAV	EP, Latvala	Delete everything after	02/06 08:02 PM
448222	AA	S	FAV	EP, Detert	Delete L.56 - 58:	02/06 08:02 PM
189584	AA	S		EP, Detert	btw L.69 - 70:	02/06 11:20 AM
240700	A	S		EP, Dean	Delete L.35:	01/27 04:27 PM
897476	A	S		EP, Dean	btw L.45 - 46:	01/27 04:27 PM

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
ENVIRONMENTAL PRESERVATION AND CONSERVATION
Senator Dean, Chair
Senator Oelrich, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Monday, February 6, 2012

TIME: 3:00 —6:00 p.m.

PLACE: *Toni Jennings Committee Room, 110 Senate Office Building*

MEMBERS: Senator Dean, Chair; Senator Oelrich, Vice Chair; Senators Detert, Jones, Latvala, Rich, and Sobel

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	CS/SB 716 Community Affairs / Bennett (Similar CS/CS/CS/CS/H 503, Compare CS/CS/H 373, CS/CS/H 663, H 747, H 987, H 4123, CS/CS/S 602, CS/S 738, S 994, S 1032)	Environmental Regulation; Prohibiting a county from requiring an applicant to obtain a permit or approval from any state or federal agency as a condition of processing a development permit under certain conditions; providing exceptions to criteria required for system facilities designated under the Strategic Intermodal System; exempting underground injection control wells from certain rules; specifying a permit term for a solid waste management facility that does not have a leachate control system meeting the requirements of the Department of Environmental Protection under certain conditions; providing for issuance of general permits for the construction, alteration, and maintenance of certain surface water management systems under certain circumstances, etc. CA 01/12/2012 Fav/CS EP 02/06/2012 Fav/CS BC	Fav/CS Yeas 7 Nays 0
2	CS/SB 1254 Agriculture / Siplin (Similar CS/CS/H 7021, Compare H 4187, H 4189)	Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Establishing the Division of Food, Nutrition, and Wellness within the department; deleting provisions for a food safety pilot program and a permitting program for persons who test milk or milk products; creating the Agricultural Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer Advisory Council; revising requirements for the assessment of penalties and enforcement of violations by manufacturers and distributors of commercial feed or feedstuff; revising the geographic jurisdiction of soil and water conservation districts to include certain territory outside of the districts' boundaries; revising requirements and procedures for the dissolution or discontinuance of soil and water conservation districts, etc. AG 01/23/2012 Fav/CS EP 02/06/2012 Fav/CS BC	Fav/CS Yeas 7 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDAEnvironmental Preservation and Conservation
Monday, February 6, 2012, 3:00 —6:00 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
3	SB 100 Siplin (Identical H 229)	Unclaimed Deposits Held By Utilities; Requiring that any unclaimed deposits held by a utility be deposited annually into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in the Department of Community Affairs, or its successor agency, to supplement the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, etc. CU 01/23/2012 Favorable EP 02/06/2012 Fav/CS BC	Fav/CS Yeas 6 Nays 1
4	SB 1032 Benacquisto (Identical H 747, H 987, Compare CS/CS/CS/CS/H 503, CS/S 716)	Thermal Efficiency Standards; Requiring that the Department of Environmental Protection and the applicable water management district grant a general permit for the construction, alteration, and maintenance of certain surface water management systems; authorizing the construction of certain surface water management systems to proceed without further action by the department or the water management district; providing definitions for the terms "ballasted roof," "hardscape," "heat island effect," "low-sloped roof," "solar reflectance" or "reflectance," and "steeped-sloped roof"; providing standards for a thermal-efficient roof, etc. EP 01/30/2012 Temporarily Postponed EP 02/06/2012 Temporarily Postponed BC	Temporarily Postponed
5	SB 1456 Diaz de la Portilla (Similar CS/H 1117)	Conservation of Wildlife; Providing for certain zoos and aquariums to apply to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for authorization to use state lands for the purpose of conducting enhanced research; providing information that must be provided in the application; providing criteria that the board must consider in reviewing the application; requiring the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to assist the board and to adopt rules, etc. EP 02/06/2012 Fav/1 Amendment BC	Fav/1 Amendment (771374) Yeas 7 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDAEnvironmental Preservation and Conservation
Monday, February 6, 2012, 3:00 —6:00 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
6	CS/CS/SB 268 Commerce and Tourism / Transportation / Wise (Similar CS/H 181)	Sponsorship of State Greenways and Trails; Creating the "John Anthony Wilson Bicycle Safety Act;" providing for the Department of Environmental Protection to enter into concession agreements for naming rights of state greenway and trail facilities or property or for commercial advertising to be displayed on state greenway and trail facilities or property; providing for distribution of proceeds from such concession agreements; authorizing the department to adopt rules, etc. TR 12/07/2011 Fav/CS CM 01/19/2012 Fav/CS EP 02/06/2012 Temporarily Postponed	Temporarily Postponed
7	SB 1086 Garcia (Compare CS/H 639)	Reclaimed Water; Revising the definition of the term "water" or "waters in the state" to exclude reclaimed water; providing that reclaimed water is an alternative water supply and eligible for such funding; authorizing specified contract provisions for the development of reclaimed water as an alternative water supply; prohibiting water management districts from requiring permits for the use of reclaimed water; authorizing permit conditions for certain surface water and groundwater sources; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection and each water management district to initiate rulemaking to adopt specified revisions to the water resource implementation rule, etc. EP 02/06/2012 Fav/CS BC	Fav/CS Yeas 7 Nays 0
8	SB 626 Richter (Identical H 333, Compare H 335, Link S 624)	Collection and Disposal of Household Pharmaceuticals; Requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to establish a grant program to reimburse local law enforcement agencies for the expenses associated with the collection and disposal of household pharmaceuticals; providing eligibility requirements; requiring that the court impose an additional surcharge for specified offenses; providing for the proceeds of the surcharge to be deposited into the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund; providing for the clerk of the court to retain a service charge, etc. EP 02/06/2012 Fav/1 Amendment HR BC	Fav/1 Amendment (631912) Yeas 7 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Environmental Preservation and Conservation
 Monday, February 6, 2012, 3:00 —6:00 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
9	SB 624 Richter (Identical H 335, Compare H 333, Link S 626)	Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund/DEP; Creating the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection; providing for sources of funds and purposes; providing for annual carryforward of funds; providing for the future review and termination or re-creation of the trust fund, etc. EP 02/06/2012 Fav/1 Amendment HR BC	Fav/1 Amendment (304776) Yeas 7 Nays 0
10	SB 958 Oelrich (Identical H 773)	Airboats; Requiring the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to establish a voluntary sound-testing program for airboats; allowing airboats that test below a specified sound level to be operated on all navigable waters of the state, including waterways on which airboats are prohibited by local ordinance; requiring a fee; providing testing requirements; requiring a super majority vote to enact certain ordinances regulating airboats; amending provisions relating to muffling devices on vessels, etc. EP 02/06/2012 Pending reconsider (Unfavorable) CA BC	Unfavorable Yeas 2 Nays 5 -Pending Reconsideration
11	CS/SB 604 Agriculture / Dean (Compare CS/CS/H 421)	Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer Application; Requiring persons who hold a limited certification to follow certain best management practices; providing an exemption from certain local government ordinances; requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to provide specified information to other local and state governmental agencies; providing the department with certain enforcement authority; providing a requirement for related penalties, fines, and administrative actions, etc. AG 12/05/2011 Fav/CS EP 01/30/2012 Temporarily Postponed EP 02/06/2012 Unfavorable BC	Unfavorable Yeas 3 Nays 4

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointment to the office indicated.

Environmental Regulation Commission

12	Gelber, Adam R. (Miami Beach)	07/01/2015	Recommend Confirm Yeas 7 Nays 0
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COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Environmental Preservation and Conservation
Monday, February 6, 2012, 3:00 —6:00 p.m.

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission			
13	Priddy, Aliese P. (Immokalee)	01/06/2017	Recommend Confirm Yeas 7 Nays 0

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
Other Related Committee Documents			

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/16/12

Meeting Date

Topic Environmental Permitting

Bill Number 716
(if applicable)

Name Brandon Wagner

Amendment Barcode 737914
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 601 E. Kennedy Blvd.
Street

Phone 813-276-2640

Tampa FL 33601
City State Zip

E-mail wagnerb@hillsboroughcounty.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Hillsborough County Gov't.

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date



Topic Environmental Regulation

Bill Number SB 716
(if applicable)

Name Mary Jean Yan

Amendment Barcode 737914
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 3324 Charleston Rd

Phone (850) 519-7859

TLH FL
City State Zip

E-mail maryjeanyan@comcast.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Audubon Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD



(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic Permitting

Bill Number CS/SB 714
(if applicable)

Name Stephanie Kunkel

Amendment Barcode 737914
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1830 Meriadae Rd.

Phone 850-320-4208

Street

Tallahassee FL 32303

City

State

Zip

E-mail Stef.Kunkel@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Clean Water Action

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD



(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2.6.12

Meeting Date

Topic ENVIRONMENTAL REG

Bill Number 716 (if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY DRIVE #29A Phone 941-323-2404

Street

CITY SARASOTA FL 34243

City

State

Zip

E-mail cullenassco@aol.com

Speaking: For Against Information

checkbox

checkbox

checkbox checked

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

checkbox

checkbox checked

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

checkbox checked

checkbox

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1
2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

Bill Number SB 716
(if applicable)

Name KEYNA CORY

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title SENIOR LOBBYIST

Address 110 E. COLLEGE AVE

Phone 850 681-1065

Street

TAWAHASSEE FL 32301

City

State

Zip

E-mail keynacory@pacconsultants.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FL (AIF)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/2012

Meeting Date

Topic _____

Bill Number 716
(if applicable)

Name Leticia M Adams

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Director of Infrastructure & Governance Policy

Address 136 South Bronough Street
Street

Phone 850-544-6866

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail ladams@flchamber.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Chamber of Commerce

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic Env. Reg

Bill Number 716
(if applicable)

Name Missy Timmins

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 2910 Kerry Forest Pkwy

Phone _____

Street

TLH 32309

E-mail _____

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Marine Industries Assoc. of FLA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic _____

Bill Number SB 716
(if applicable)

Name Manny Reyes

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title lobbyist

Address 200 West College Ave #204

Phone 850-222-9911

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail mreyes@gomezbarber.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing City of North Bay Village

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic Regulatory Streamlining Bill Number 716
(if applicable)

Name Keith Hetrick Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Of Counsel

Address 215 So. Monroe Phone 251-1838
Street

Tall FL 32301 E-mail khetrick@
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

broadbandcassel.com

Representing Florida Home Builders Assoc.

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/CS/SB 716

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee; Community Affairs Committee; and Senators Bennett and Evers

SUBJECT: Environmental Regulation

DATE: February 8, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Uchino	Yeatman	CA	Fav/CS
2.	Uchino	Yeatman	EP	Fav/CS
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

The Committee Substitute (CS) creates, amends and redefines provisions relating to environmental regulation. It relates to permit administration, requirements and application for various types of permits. It also addresses contaminated site cleanup and other petroleum-related issues.. Specifically the CS:

- Prohibits a county or a municipality from conditioning the processing for a development permit on an applicant obtaining a permit or approval from any other state or federal agency;
- Authorizes the DEP to issue a coastal construction permit before an applicant receives an incidental take authorization;
- Expands eligibility for those entities entitled to reduced or waived permit processing fees;
- Exempts a municipal applicant from having to show extreme hardship when proposing a public waterfront promenade in the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve;
- Expands the use of Internet-based self-certification services and general permits;
- Exempts previously authorized underground injection wells from ch. 373, part III, F.S., relating to the regulation of wells, except for Class V, Group 1 wells;
- Shortens the time frame that permits must be noticed for proposed agency action from 90 days to 60;

- Provides for an expanded state programmatic general permit;
- Raises the qualifying low-scored site initiative priority ranking score from 10 to 29, and exempts certain expenditures from counting against the low-scored site initiative cleanup program;
- Revises qualifications for fiscal assistance for innocent victim petroleum storage system restoration;
- Provides expedited permitting for intermodal logistic centers receiving or sending cargo to or from Florida ports;
- Authorizes zones of discharges to groundwater for existing installations, with certain limitations;
- Revises requirements for permit revocation;
- Revises the definition for “financially disadvantaged small community”;
- Revises the definition of industrial sludge;
- Specifies recycling credits available for counties that operate waste-to-energy facilities;
- Revises provisions related to solid waste disposal and management;
- Provides for a general permit for small surface water management systems;
- Expands the definition for “transient noncommunity water systems” to include religious institutions;
- Clarifies creation of regional permit action teams for expedited permitting for certain businesses;
- Allows for sale of unblended fuels for specified applications, and specifies that alternative fuels other than ethanol may be used as blending fuels for blending gasoline; and
- Prohibits the collection of permit renewal fees for those permits that were automatically extended by ch. 2011-139, ss. 73 and 79 of the Laws of Florida.

This CS substantially amends ss. 125.022, 161.041, 166.033, 218.075, 258.397, 373.026, 373.326, 373.4141, 373.4144, 376.3071, 376.30715, 380.0657, 403.061, 403.087, 403.1838, 403.7045, 403.706, 403.707, 403.7125, 403.814, 403.853, 403.973, and 526.203 of the Florida Statutes and creates an unnumbered section of law.

II. Present Situation:

The affected permitting and other areas addressed by this CS are diverse. Each programmatic area will be addressed in the “effect of proposed changes” of the CS to allow for greater clarity of how it is affected by the particular proposed change.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Sections 1 and 3 amend ss. 125.022 and 166.033, F.S., respectively, relating to county and municipality development permit requirements.

Stakeholders in the business and regulated communities have expressed some frustration at the local permitting process. There is anecdotal evidence that local governments may condition approval of development permits on the applicant’s first securing state and federal permits. For complicated permits requiring local, state and federal permits, this process can cause delays and drive up costs.

For development permit applications filed after July 1, 2012, the CS prohibits a county or municipality from requiring that an applicant first obtain state or federal permits or approvals before processing or issuing a development permit; however, this prohibition does not apply if a state or federal agency issues a notice of intent to deny the permit before a county's or municipality's action. The CS specifies that issuance of a county or municipal development permit does not create any right for the applicant to obtain permits from other agencies. It also clarifies that a county or municipality is not liable if an applicant fails to fulfill its legal obligations or undertakes actions in violation of state or federal law. A county or municipality may attach a disclaimer in the permit that states as much. The CS allows a county or municipality to require an applicant obtain all state and federal permits before commencing development. The CS does not prohibit a county or municipality from providing information to an applicant as to what other permits may apply.

Section 2 amends s. 161.041, relating to permits for beach and shore preservation projects.

Prior to development of coastal projects, an applicant must apply to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for a coastal construction permit. The federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) governs activities that impact listed species. Section 10a(1)B of the ESA regulates incidental takings of listed species. The ESA defines a "take" as, "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct." The ESA prohibits takings of listed species through direct harm or habitat destruction. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issues authorizations for incidental takings, which allows permit holders to engage in legal activity that results in incidental takings of listed species.¹ Currently, the DEP will not issue a coastal construction permit before an incidental take authorization is issued.

The CS authorizes the DEP to issue a coastal construction permit before an applicant secures an incidental take authorization issued pursuant to the ESA; however, the permit must contain conditions that prohibit the authorized activity from occurring until the incidental take authorization is issued. This will allow applicants to better prepare for the permitted activity and would be considered a final agency action if any party desired to initiate a ch. 120, F.S., challenge.

Section 4 amends s. 218.075, F.S., relating to reduction or waiver of permit fees.

Section 218.075, F.S., provides that the DEP or a Water Management District (WMD) may reduce or waive permit processing fees for counties with a population of 50,000 or less until that county exceeds a population of 75,000, and for municipalities with a population of 25,000 or less. Fee reductions or waivers are approved on the basis of fiscal hardship or environmental need for a particular project or activity. The governing body must certify that the cost of the permit processing fee is a fiscal hardship.

¹ U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, *Endangered Species Permits*, <http://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/permits/hcp/index.html> (last visited Jan. 10, 2012).

The CS expands eligibility for reductions or waivers of permit processing fees for entities created by special act, local ordinance or interlocal agreement of those local governments that would qualify under existing law.

Section 5 amends s. 258.397, F.S., relating to the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve.

Florida has 41 aquatic preserves, encompassing approximately 2 million acres. Biscayne Bay Aquatic preserve is located in Southeast Florida in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties. Its boundaries, management authorities, and rules are established in Rule 18-18, F.A.C.² The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Board) may not convey sovereignty submerged lands within the preserve except upon a showing of extreme hardship by the applicant and that the conveyance is in the public interest. There are no exceptions for municipal projects.

The CS exempts a municipal applicant from having to show extreme hardship for a proposed public waterfront promenade in the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve.

Section 6 amends s. 373.026, F.S., relating to DEP powers and duties and Internet-based self-certification.

Self-certification of permit requirements is the process of the permitting agency allowing “applicants” to manage their own compliance for a given regulated activity. The regulating agency sets up the specific requirements of the permit, and if followed, “applicants” do not apply for permits in the traditional sense. They simply undertake the regulated activity and “self certify” that they have complied with all conditions of the permit. The DEP currently accepts certain types of permit applications online and provides an online self-certification process for private docks associated with detached individual single-family homes on the adjacent uplands. Through this electronic process, one may immediately determine whether a dock can be constructed without further notice or review by the DEP. The DEP is working on expanding its online self-certification into other permitting areas, but it is currently limited to constructing and repairing single-family docks, adding boatlifts to private docks and adding rip rap to the toe of existing seawalls.³

In addition, the WMDs allow users to access nearly all permitting documents and forms online. Their websites also allow interested third parties access to permitting applications and supplementary materials. According to the Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations report,⁴ interviews with stakeholder groups indicated some local governments often do not accept self-certification for permit-exempt projects identified in statute, rule, or listed in the DEP’s website. Some local governments require a “signature” from DEP permit review staff to verify the exempt status of a project submitted under self-certification, notwithstanding the fact

² Florida Dep’t of Environmental Protection, *About the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve*, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/coastal/sites/biscayne/info.htm> (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

³ Florida Dep’t of Environmental Protection, *FDEP’s Self-Certification Process for Single-Family Docks*, <http://appprod.dep.state.fl.us/erppa/> (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

⁴ Florida Legislative Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, *Improving Consistency and Predictability in Dock and Marina Permitting* (Mar. 2007), available at http://www.myfmca.org/wp-content/uploads/2009/12/007_Improving_Consistency_Predictability_Dock_Marina_Permitting_2-19-07.pdf (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

that current law neither requires nor provides for a “signature” from the DEP as an alternative or as supplemental to self-certification.

The CS requires the DEP to expand the use of Internet-based self-certification services for appropriate exemptions and general permits issued by the DEP and the WMDs. The expansion of services is only required if economically feasible. In addition to expanding the use of such online services, the DEP and WMDs must identify and develop general permits for appropriate activities currently requiring individual review that could be expedited through the use of professional certifications.

Section 7 amends s. 373.326, F.S., relating to the regulation of underground injection wells.

The DEP’s Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program protects the state’s underground sources of drinking water (USDW) while disposing of appropriately treated fluids in underground injection wells.⁵ A USDW is defined as an aquifer that contains a total dissolved solids concentration of less than 10,000 milligrams per liter of water.⁶ The UIC program is charged with preventing degradation of the quality of other aquifers adjacent to the injection zone. Subsurface injection, the practice of emplacing fluids through an injection well, is one of many wastewater disposal methods used in Florida.⁷

The injection wells are required to be constructed, maintained, and operated so that the injected fluid remains in the injection zone, and the unapproved interchange of water between aquifers is prohibited. There are five classes of injection wells. Four of the well classes address the injection of hazardous and nonhazardous waste and fluids associated with the production of oil and natural gas. Class V injection wells generally inject nonhazardous fluid into or above a USDW.

Class V, Group 1 wells are closed-loop air conditioning return flow wells and qualify for a general permit from the DEP. Therefore, construction of this type of well does not have to be pre-permitted by the DEP. However, the Northwest Florida WMD does issue pre-construction permits for these types of wells.

The CS exempts all underground injection wells, except Class V, Group 1, from ch. 373, part III, F.S. It specifies that all wells must be constructed by licensed persons pursuant to s. 373.323, F.S. This will prevent any unnecessary duplication between the DEP and the WMDs for regulating underground injection wells.

Section 8 amends s. 373.4141, F.S., relating to the DEP’s permit processing procedures.

Upon receipt of an application for a license or an environmental resource permit (ERP) under ch. 373, part IV, F.S., the DEP or a WMD is required to examine the application and notify the applicant within 30 days of any apparent errors or omissions and requests for additional information (RAIs). The application is not deemed complete until the agency determines that it has all of the information it needs to approve or deny the application. An applicant may request

⁵ See Rule 62-528, F.A.C.

⁶ Rule 62-528.200, F.A.C.

⁷ Florida Dep’t of Environmental Protection, *Underground Injection Control*, www.dep.state.fl.us/water/uic/ (last visited Jan. 13, 2012).

the agency process the application if he or she believes that an RAI is not authorized by law or rule. The DEP or a WMD is required to approve or deny every application within 90 days after receipt of a completed application unless a shorter period of time for agency action is provided by law. There is no time limit on when the applicant must respond to an RAI, or limit to the number of RAIs the DEP or WMD may issue.

The CS reduces the time frame for the DEP or a WMD to approve, deny or issue a notice of proposed agency action from 90 to 60 days. Additionally, the CS prohibits a state agency or an agency of the state from requiring a permit from any other local, state or federal agency as a condition to approve or submit a completed application unless statutorily authorized to do so.

Section 9 amends s. 373.4144, F.S., relating to federal environmental permitting.

One of Florida's key characteristics is its vast wetlands, including the Everglades. Wetlands are defined as being neither dry nor covered by open water but continually influenced by water. At times, wetlands may be dry for months or even years, or they may be covered with water the majority of the time only drying out for short periods.⁸

For activities occurring in "waters of the United States" in Florida, including wetlands, the federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) require compliance with and regulate activities under the authority of Section 404 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA).⁹ Wetlands are also regulated under Section 10 of the federal Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899,¹⁰ although the focus of that legislation is primarily maintaining navigable waters.¹¹ When a dredge and fill permit is required in addition to permits required by the state, it is issued independently from the DEP or the WMD permits and is reviewed by the Corps. However, the Corps' issuance of the permit is dependent on the applicant first receiving state water quality certification or a waiver through the state Environmental Resource Permit (ERP)¹² program. If the permitted activity is in a coastal county, the application must also have received a finding of consistency with the Florida Coastal Zone Management Program.¹³

In addition to permits issued under the CWA and the federal Rivers and Harbors Act, the Corps also administers the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The Corps has delegated the authority to Florida to implement this program for stormwater systems, including municipal systems, certain industrial activities and construction activities. The WMDs do not have delegated authorization from the EPA to implement this program. The EPA has determined that the separate WMDs do not constitute a central state authority, and

⁸ Florida Dep't of Environmental Protection, *Florida State of the Environment – Wetlands: A Guide to Living with Florida's Wetlands*, available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/docs/erp/fsewet.pdf> (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

⁹ 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1387.

¹⁰ 33 U.S.C. § 403.

¹¹ Florida Dep't of Environmental Protection, *Consolidation of State and Federal Wetland Permitting Programs, Implementation of House Bill 759 (Chapter 2005-273, Laws of Florida)* (Sep. 2005), available at http://www.dep.state.fl.us/ig/reports/files/final_report016.pdf (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

¹² See generally ch. 373, part IV, F.S.

¹³ Florida Dep't of Environmental Protection, *Summary of the Wetland and Other Surface Water Regulatory and Proprietary Programs in Florida* (2007), available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wetlands/docs/erp/overview.pdf> (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

therefore, they do not have the state-wide consistency required for federal delegation of the NPDES permit program.

The Corps has also delegated to Florida the authority to issue federal dredge and fill permits under Section 404 of the CWA for certain activities. These are known as State Programmatic General Permits (SPGP). Under this delegated authority, the department may issue state authorizations for limited state exemptions and noticed general permits for shoreline stabilization, docks, boat ramps, and maintenance dredging that constitute federal authorization. Such authorization may be subject to additional specific federal conditions, however.¹⁴ The DEP has expressed interest in expanding the SPGP program for activity-specific categories, subject to acreage limitations. In addition to a closer alignment of state and federal wetland delineation methods, changes to statutes or rules must be made to address federal coordination and consultation requirements for threatened and endangered species.

The CS authorizes the DEP to obtain issuance of an expanded SPGP or a series of regional general permits from the Corps for categories of activities in waters of the United States governed by the Clean Water Act and in navigable waters governed by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. An activity will only be authorized if it causes only minimal adverse environmental effects when performed separately and, when taken together, cause only minimal cumulative adverse environmental effects.

The CS directs the DEP to not seek issuance of or take any action pursuant to such permits unless the conditions are at least as protective of the environment and natural resources as existing state law and federal law under the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. It deletes the requirement that the DEP develop a consolidated wetland permitting mechanism by October 1, 2005. It also deletes the requirement that dredge and fill activities impacting 10 acres or less be processed as part of an ERP program.

The CS authorizes the DEP and WMDs to implement a voluntary SPGP for all dredge and fill activities impacting 3 acres or less of wetlands or other surface waters, including navigable waters, subject to agreement with the Corps if the general permit is at least as protective of the environment and natural resources as existing state law and federal law under the Clean Water Act and Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. It deletes an obsolete reporting requirement. The CS would not preclude the DEP from pursuing a series of regional general permits for construction activities in wetlands or surface waters.

Section 10 amends s. 376.3071, F.S., related to the low-scored site initiative for contaminated sites.

The Legislature created the Inland Protection Trust Fund (fund) with the intent that it serve as a repository for funds which will enable the DEP to respond without delay to incidents of inland contamination related to the storage of petroleum and petroleum products in order to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to minimize environmental damage.¹⁵ Section 376.3071(4), F.S., directs the DEP to obligate moneys available in the fund whenever incidents of inland

¹⁴ *Id.* at 20.

¹⁵ Section 376.3071, F.S.

contamination related to the storage of petroleum or petroleum products may pose a threat to the environment or public health, safety or welfare. The current law provides for:

- Prompt investigation and assessment of contaminated sites;
- Expedient restoration or replacement of potable water supplies;
- Rehabilitation of contaminated sites;
- Maintenance and monitoring of contaminated sites;
- Payment of expenses incurred by the DEP in its efforts to obtain the payment or recovery of reasonable costs resulting from the activities described in this subsection from responsible parties;
- Payment of any other reasonable costs of administration, including those administrative costs incurred by the Department of Health in providing field and laboratory services, toxicological risk assessment and other assistance to the DEP in the investigation of drinking water contamination complaints, and costs associated with public information and education activities;
- Establishment and implementation of a compliance verification program;
- Activities related to removal and replacement of petroleum storage systems;
- Reasonable costs of restoring property as nearly as practicable to the conditions which existed prior to activities associated with contamination assessment or remedial action;
- Repayment of loans to the fund; and
- Expenditures from the fund to cover ineligible sites or costs if the DEP deems it necessary to do so.

Section 376.3071(5), F.S., provides for the site selection and cleanup criteria that the DEP uses in determining the priority ranking for sites seeking state-funded rehabilitation. The priority ranking is based upon a scoring system for state-conducted cleanup at petroleum contamination sites based upon factors that include, but are not limited to:

- The degree to which human health, safety or welfare may be affected by exposure to the contamination;
- The size of the population or area affected by the contamination;
- The present and future uses of the affected aquifer or surface waters, with particular consideration as to the probability that the contamination is substantially affecting, or will migrate to and substantially affect, a known public or private source of potable water; and
- The effect of the contamination on the environment.

Section 376.3071(11), F.S., provides for a low-scored site initiative for sites with a priority ranking score of 10 points or less and provides conditions for voluntary participation, including:

- Upon reassessment pursuant to DEP rule, the site retains a priority ranking score of 10 points or less;
- No excessively contaminated soil, as defined by DEP rule, exists onsite as a result of a release of petroleum products;
- A minimum of six months of groundwater monitoring indicates that the plume is shrinking or stable;
- The release of petroleum products at the site does not adversely affect adjacent surface waters, including their effects on human health and the environment;

- The area of groundwater containing the petroleum products' chemicals of concern is less than one-quarter acre and is confined to the source property boundaries of the real property on which the discharge originated; and
- Soils onsite that are subject to human exposure found between land surface and two feet below land surface meet the soil cleanup target levels established by DEP rule, or human exposure is limited by appropriate institutional or engineering controls.

If these conditions are met, the DEP must issue a "No Further Action" determination, which means minimal contamination exists onsite and that contamination is not a threat to human health or the environment. If no contamination is detected, the DEP may issue a site rehabilitation completion order (SRCO). Sites that are eligible must be voluntarily initiated by the source property owner or responsible party for the contamination. For sites eligible for state restoration funding, the DEP may pre-approve the costs of the site assessment, including six months of groundwater monitoring, not to exceed \$30,000 for each site. The DEP may not pay the costs associated with the establishment of institutional or engineering controls. Assessment work must be completed no later than six months after the DEP issues its approval.

There are 4,865 sites with a priority ranking score of 29 or under. A site with a score of 29 or lower indicates that there are no wells threatened by the contamination. Industry experts estimate that as many as 40 percent of these sites are eligible for either a no further action or site rehabilitation completion order.

The CS raises the priority ranking score for voluntary participation in the low-scored site initiative from 10 to 29. It also clarifies that program deductibles, copayments, and contamination assessment report requirements do not count towards expenditures under the low-scored site initiative. These changes will allow more sites to participate and be taken off the contaminated site list.

Section 11 amends s. 376.30715, F.S., relating to innocent victim petroleum storage system restoration.

In 2005, the Legislature created the Innocent Victim Petroleum Storage System Restoration Program to provide state clean-up assistance to property owners of petroleum-contaminated sites that were acquired prior to July 1, 1990. To be eligible for clean up, the site must have ceased operating as a petroleum storage or retail business prior to January 1, 1985. A conveyance of property to a spouse, a surviving spouse in trust or free of trust, or a revocable trust created for the benefit of the settlor, does not disqualify the site from participating in the Innocent Victim Petroleum Storage System Restoration Program. The current property owner of the contaminated site must have acquired the property prior to July 1, 1990.

The CS provides that the transfer of title for a petroleum contaminated site to a child, a child in trust or a corporate entity created by the owner to hold title to the site does not disqualify the site from financial assistance. The CS allows applicants who were previously denied coverage to reapply.

Section 12 amends s. 380.0657, F.S., relating to expedited permitting for economic development projects.

The DEP and WMDs are required to adopt programs to expedite the processing of wetland resource permits and ERPs when such permits are for the purpose of economic development projects that have been identified by a municipality or county as meeting the definition of target industry businesses under s. 288.106, F.S.

Pursuant to s. 288.106(2)(q), F.S., a “target industry business” is defined as a corporate headquarters business or any business that is engaged in one of the target industries identified pursuant to the following criteria developed by the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development (OTTED) in consultation with Enterprise Florida, Inc.:

- Future growth in both employment and output;
- Workforce is not subject to periodic layoffs;
- High wages compared to the surrounding area;
- Market and resource independence from Florida markets;
- Expansion or diversification of the state’s or the area’s economic base; and
- Strong economic benefits to the state or regional economies.

An intermodal logistics center, or inland port, is typically a distribution complex designed to provide intermodal transfers between ship, rail and truck operations. The Port of Palm Beach has limited expansion options. Its terminal size is also limiting its growth potential. To address its limitations, Port staff developed the inland port idea to be located in western Palm Beach County.¹⁶ The project has not gotten out of the planning stage and has hit a number of delays. Two proposed sites have been scrapped due to, in large measure, environmental impacts and the potential interference with Everglades restoration. In March 2011, the Port St. Lucie Planning & Zoning Board rejected plans to annex 7,139 acres for development and to amend the comprehensive plan to change the land use from agricultural to heavy industrial.¹⁷ The most recent plans call for collaboration between the Port of Palm Beach and Florida Crystals Corporation to develop 850 acres just north of South Bay, Florida, in unincorporated Palm Beach County.¹⁸

The CS specifies that any intermodal logistics center that receives and sends cargo to and from Florida’s ports qualifies for expedited permitting review.

Section 13 amends s. 403.061, F.S., relating to zones of discharge to groundwater.

“Zone of Discharge” is defined in Rule 62-520.200(27), F.A.C. It means “a volume underlying or surrounding the site and extending to the base of a specifically designated aquifer or aquifers, within which an opportunity for the treatment, mixture or dispersion of wastes into receiving ground water is afforded.” Additionally, Rule 62-520.300(2)(c), F.A.C., provides:

¹⁶ Florida Dep’t of Transportation, *South Florida Inland Port Feasibility Study – final report* (June 2007), available at http://www.dot.state.fl.us/seaport/pdfs/SFL_Inland_Port_Final_Report_11_07.pdf (last visited Jan. 9, 2012).

¹⁷ Alexi Howk, *Planning board rejection signals dwindling support for Port St. Lucie inland port project*, TCPalm, Mar. 3, 2011, available at <http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2011/mar/03/planning-board-rejection-signals-dwindling-for/> (last visited Feb. 8, 2012).

¹⁸ Susan Salisbury, *Port of Palm Beach, Florida Crystals have plan for inland port in Glades*, The Palm Beach Post, July 1, 2011, available at <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/money/port-of-palm-beach-florida-crystals-have-plan-1632419.html> (last visited Feb. 8, 2012).

The zone of discharge and exemption provisions are designed to provide an opportunity for the future consideration of factors relating to localized situations which could not adequately be addressed in the rulemaking hearing of March 1, 1979, including economic and social consequences, attainability, irretrievable conditions, natural background and detectability.

Further, Rule 62-520.200(10), F.A.C., defines “existing installation” as:

[A]ny installation which had filed a complete application for a water discharge permit on or before January 1, 1983, or which submitted a ground water monitoring plan no later than six months after the date required for that type of installation as listed in former Rule 17-4.245, F.A.C. (1983), and a plan was subsequently approved by the Department; or which was in fact an installation reasonably expected to release contaminants into the ground water on or before July 1, 1982, and operated consistently with statutes and rules relating to ground water discharge in effect at the time of the operation.

Currently, many existing installations do not have permits or groundwater monitoring plans. It is therefore impossible in these instances for the DEP to designate a specific aquifer for discharge. The DEP has historically used the uppermost aquifer as the default and specified other aquifers if required on case-by-case basis.

The CS provides that for existing installations, as defined by rule 62-520.200(10), F.A.C., zones of discharge to groundwater are authorized horizontally to a facility’s or owner’s property boundary and extending vertically to the base of a specifically designated aquifer or aquifers. The CS specifies that the zones of discharge may be modified in accordance with DEP rules. It also clarifies that exceedance of primary and secondary groundwater standards that occurs within a zone of discharge does not create liability pursuant to chs. 376 or 403, F.S., for site cleanup, and the exceedance of soil cleanup target levels is not a basis for enforcement or site cleanup, unless it is caused by an illegal discharge.

Section 14 amends s. 403.087, F.S., relating to revocation of permits by DEP.

Currently, the DEP may revoke permits for the following reasons:

- The permit holder has submitted false or inaccurate information on the application;
- The permit holder has violated law, DEP orders, rules, or regulations, or permit conditions;
- The permit holder has failed to submit operational reports or other information required by DEP rule or regulation; or
- The permit holder has refused lawful inspection under s. 403.091, F.S.¹⁹

¹⁹ Section 403.091(c), F.S., states that no person shall refuse reasonable entry or access to any authorized representative of the DEP who requests entry for purposes of inspection and who presents appropriate credentials; nor shall any person obstruct, hamper, or interfere with any such inspection. The owner or operator of the premises shall receive a report, if requested, setting forth all facts found which relate to compliance status.

The CS narrows those violations that the DEP may consider in revoking a permit. The CS allows the DEP to revoke permits for the following violations:

- The permit holder has violated a law, DEP order, rule or condition, which directly relate to the permit;
- The permit holder has failed to submit required operational reports or other information that directly relates to the permit and has refused to correct or cure such violations when requested to do so; and
- The permit holder has refused a lawful inspection at the facility authorized by the permit.

Section 15 amends s. 403.1838, F.S., relating to the small community sewer construction act.

Florida's Small Community Wastewater Facilities Grants Program is administered by the DEP. The DEP grants funds for the planning, design and construction of wastewater management systems for qualifying small municipalities. Highest priority is given to projects that address the most serious risks to public health, are necessary to achieve compliance, or assist systems most in need based on an affordability index. The population limit to qualify as a financially disadvantaged small community is currently 7,500 or less.

The CS increases the population size from 7,500 to 10,000 or fewer to qualify as a financially disadvantaged small community. More communities will be eligible to qualify for grants.

Section 16 amends s. 403.7045, F.S., relating to industrial waste.

Currently, solid waste is defined in statute to mean sludge unregulated under the federal Clean Water Act or Clean Air Act, sludge from a waste treatment works, water supply treatment plant, or air pollution control facility, or garbage, rubbish, refuse, special waste, or other discarded material. Industrial byproducts are not considered hazardous wastes.

The CS clarifies that sludge from industrial waste treatment works that meet certain exemptions contained in s. 403.7045(1)(f), F.S., is not considered solid waste.

Section 17 amends s. 403.706, F.S., relating to recycling credits for waste-to-energy facilities.

According to the DEP, as of 2011, there are 11 waste-to-energy (WTE) facilities operating in Florida. Through the mass combustion of municipal solid waste and refuse-derived fuel, Florida's WTE facilities generate 3.25 million megawatts of energy per year, enough to power 300,000 homes for one year.

Section 403.706(4)(a), F.S., provides recycling credits for the production of renewable energy from solid waste that are to be counted toward the county recycling goals. Current law requires that recycling credits for WTE facilities be applied at a rate of 1 ton of recycled material per megawatt-hour (1 ton/mwh) of renewable energy produced. Section 403.406(4)(a) also provides that a county shall count additional recycling credits for WTE facilities for the following two cases:

- If a county maintains a 50 percent recycling rate by means other than renewable energy production, it shall get an additional 1 ton credit per megawatt-hour, a total of 2 tons/mwh.

- If a county with renewable energy production from solid waste has a debt service payment related to its waste to energy facility, it shall get an additional credit of 1 ton /mwh.

Therefore, if a county has a debt service funded WTE facility and maintains a 50 percent recycling rate, it receives a 3 ton/mwh recycling credit. In addition, s. 403.406(4)(a), F.S., provides that byproducts, mostly ash, resulting from the WTE process do not count as waste. The result is several counties are expected to exceed a 100 percent recycling rate.²⁰

The CS reduces the additional recycling credit from 1 ton to 0.25 tons for each megawatt-hour produced from WTE facilities in counties that maintain a 50 percent recycling rate. It deletes the 1 ton/mwh credit for counties with outstanding debt service on their WTE facilities.

Additionally, it clarifies that byproducts, when recycled, shall count towards county recycling goals in accordance to DEP rules. Otherwise the byproducts are considered waste.

Sections 18 amends s. 403.707, F.S., relating to permitting of solid waste management facilities.

Currently, a solid waste management facility may not be operated, maintained, constructed, expanded, modified, or closed without valid permits issued by the DEP. Permits under s. 403.707, F.S., are not required for the following activities, if an activity does not create a public nuisance or any condition adversely affecting the environment or public health and does not violate other state or local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations or orders:

- Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their properties, if such waste is ordinary household waste or rocks, soils, trees, tree remains, and other vegetative matter that normally result from land development operations;
- Storage in containers by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their properties, if the solid waste is collected at least once a week; and
- Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their properties if the environmental effects of such disposal on groundwater and surface waters are addressed or authorized by a site certification order or a permit issued by the DEP under ch. 403, F.S., or rules adopted pursuant to ch. 403, F.S., or addressed or authorized by, or exempted from the requirement to obtain, a groundwater monitoring plan approved by the DEP.

The DEP provides guidelines for the storage, separation, processing, recovery, recycling, and disposal of solid waste throughout the state. Section 403.707, F.S., requires that a solid waste management facility must obtain a permit from DEP in order to operate. In addition, the DEP typically limits the amount of specific materials that a WTE facility may accept through air permit or certification conditions. For example, many facilities are limited by conditions in their air permits to accepting used oil filters that make up less than 5 percent of their waste streams. There is no statutory provision that requires or restricts this practice. However, current law allows the DEP to restrict certain types of waste to comply with air emission limitations.

Section 403.707(3), F.S., limits permit duration to 10 years for a potential source of water pollution, which includes most solid waste management facilities. The DEP rules currently limit

²⁰ DEP, *Waste to Energy Recycling Credits* (2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

permit duration to 5 years, except for certain long-term care permits for closed facilities, which may be approved up to 10 years. The fees for most solid waste permits are limited to \$10,000.

Leachate from a landfill varies widely in composition depending on the age of the landfill and the type of waste it contains. It can usually contain both dissolved and suspended solids. The generation of leachate is caused principally by precipitation percolating through waste deposited in a landfill. The term “leachate” refers to the fluid flowing out of waste material after coming in contact with decomposing solid waste.

The risks of leachate generation can be mitigated by properly designed and engineered landfill sites, such as sites that are constructed on geologically impermeable materials or sites that use impermeable liners made of geomembranes or engineered clay.

The CS requires the DEP to allow WTE facilities to maximize acceptance and processing of nonhazardous solid and liquid waste. This will limit the DEP’s authority to restrict certain waste types to a percentage of the total waste stream. This provision does not affect the DEP’s authority to restrict waste types to comply with air emission limitations.

The CS deletes the public nuisance and adverse impact requirements in s. 403.707(2), F.S., which provide that a permit is not required if the activity does not create a public nuisance or any condition adversely affecting the environment or public health and does not violate other state or local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations or orders.

The CS provides that if a facility has a permit authorizing disposal activity for solid waste resulting from their own activities on their own property, new areas where solid waste is being disposed of which are monitored by an existing or modified groundwater monitoring plan are not required to be specifically authorized in a permit or other certification.

The CS requires the DEP to issue 20-year permits for solid waste management facilities having leachate control systems that meet DEP’s requirements. This provision applies to new applications and renewals made on or after October 1, 2012

The CS also allows a permit to be issued to a solid waste management facility that does not have a leachate control system for 10 years if the applicant meets certain criteria. The applicant seeking renewal must:

- have regularly utilized the site for at least 4 and a half months before the application;
- not be subject to a notice, at the time of applying for the renewal permit, by the DEP, or be in violation of an applicable rule;
- not have been notified to implement assessment or evaluation monitoring as a result of exceedances of applicable groundwater standards, or completing corrective actions in accordance with applicable DEP rules;
- be in compliance with the applicable financial assurance requirements.

This section also authorizes the DEP to adopt rules but does not require those rules to be submitted to the Environmental Regulation Commission for approval. The CS specifies that existing permit cap fees do not apply. The DEP is authorized to prorate existing fees for these longer permits. For example, a Class I landfill operation permit fee is currently \$10,000 for a 5-

year permit. If these provisions become law, the permit fee will increase to a maximum of \$40,000 for a 20-year permit.

Section 19 amends s. 403.7125, F.S., relating to financial assurance for solid waste management facilities.

The EPA adopted rules for solid waste management facilities in 1991. According to the DEP, if a state's program was determined to be at least equivalent to the federal program, it would be approved and the federal regulation would not apply in that state. Florida's program was approved in 1993. One of the conditions for approval was that DEP amend existing rules to require financial assurance for corrective actions at landfills. The DEP adopted Rules 62-701.630 and 62-701.730, F.A.C., to include provisions requiring permittees that have an approved corrective action plan to put up financial assurance for the costs of the corrective actions. The Joint Administrative Procedures Committee has stated that the DEP does not have the statutory authority for these rules. If the DEP had to repeal the existing rules, the EPA could determine that Florida's program is no longer equivalent and disapprove it, in which case owners of solid waste management facilities would be required to comply with all of the EPA's regulations in addition to all of Florida's rules. This would create a burden on the regulated community and could create conflict since Florida's rules are not identical to EPA's.²¹

Additionally, owners and operators of landfills are jointly and severally liable for the improper operation and resulting closure of the facility.²² To offset potential liabilities where the landfill is owned or operated by a local, state, or federal governmental entity, the owner or operator must establish and collect a fee, surcharge, or other revenue source in an amount necessary to ensure adequate funds are available in the event the landfill must be closed. The funds collected must be deposited in an interest-bearing escrow account maintained by the owner or operator.²³ Alternatively, owners or operators may provide DEP with a financial assurance of funds for the closure of the facility, in the form of a surety bond, certificates of deposit, or other specified financial instruments.²⁴

The CS directs the DEP to require, by rule, the owner or operator of a solid waste management facility receiving waste after October 9, 1993, and who is the responsible party for corrective actions for violations of water quality standards, to provide financial assurance to cover the costs of corrective actions. The CS also specifies that the financial assurance mechanisms available for closure costs shall be available for corrective actions. This change should alleviate any potential ch. 120, F.S., challenges that the DEP does not have the statutory authority for the existing rules.

Section 20 amends 403.814, F.S., relating to delegation of general permits.

Currently, the DEP is authorized to adopt rules establishing and providing for general permits for projects which have, either singularly or cumulatively, a minimal adverse environmental effect. Such rules must specify design or performance criteria that, if applied, would result in compliance with appropriate standards. Any person complying with the requirements of a

²¹ Conversation with a Florida Dep't of Environmental Protection representative (Jan. 6, 2012).

²² Section 403.7125(1), F.S.

²³ Section 403.7125(2), F.S.

²⁴ Section 403.7125(3), F.S.

general permit may use the permit 30 days after giving notice to the DEP without any agency action by the DEP.²⁵ Projects include, but are not limited to:

- Construction and modification of boat ramps of certain sizes,
- Installation and repair of riprap at the base of existing seawalls,
- Installation of culverts associated with stormwater discharge facilities, and
- Construction and modification of certain utility and public roadway construction activities.

The CS directs the DEP to create a general permit for construction, alteration and maintenance of surface water management systems for up to 10 acres. When the stormwater management system conforms to ch. 373, part IV, F.S., it creates a rebuttable presumption that discharges comply with state water quality standards. The CS specifies that construction of a system may proceed without action by the DEP or a WMD if, within 30 days after commencement of construction, an electronic self-certification is submitted to the DEP or a WMD that certifies the system was designed by a registered professional and meets the following criteria:

- The total project area is less than 10 acres and contains less than two acres of impervious surface;
- The activities will not impact wetlands or other surface waters;
- The activities are not conducted in, on or over wetlands or other surface waters;
- Drainage facilities will not include pipes having diameters greater than 24 inches, or the hydraulic equivalent, and will not use pumps in any manner;
- The project is not part of a larger common plan of development or sale; and
- The project does not cause:
 - adverse water quantity or flooding to receiving waters or adjacent lands;
 - adverse impacts to existing surface water storage and conveyance capabilities;
 - violations of state water quality standards; or
 - adverse impacts to the maintenance of surface water or groundwater levels or surface water flows established pursuant to s. 373.042, F.S., or a work of a WMD provided for in s. 373.086, F.S.; and

Section 21 amends s. 403.853, F.S., relating to drinking water standards for religious institutions.

Under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has promulgated national primary drinking water regulations for contaminants that may adversely affect human health, if it is likely to occur in public water systems often and at levels of public health concern. The EPA will regulate the contaminant if the EPA's Administrator decides that regulating the contaminant will meaningfully reduce health risks for those served by public water systems. The federal act also authorizes states to assume implementation and enforcement. In 1977 Florida adopted the Florida Safe Drinking Water Act (FSDWA), which is jointly administered by the DEP, as lead-agency, and the Department of Health (DOH), which has specific duties and responsibilities of its own. The DOH and its agents have general supervision and control over all private water systems and public water systems not covered or included in the FSDWA. Every county health department in Florida has a minimum degree of mandatory participation in the FSDWA. This minimal level of participation is supportive in nature because most of the county health departments do not have sufficient staff or capability to

²⁵ Section 403.814(1), F.S.

be fully responsible for the program. In those counties where the county health department is without adequate capability, the appropriate DEP office is heavily involved in administering all aspects of the program.

Under the FSDWA, a regulated “public water system” is a system that provides water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances and has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 individuals daily at least 60 days out of the year.²⁶ The only exception is for those systems that, in addition to meeting the criteria for being a public water system, also meet all four criteria provided for in s. 403.853(2), F.S. The system:

- Consists of distribution and storage facilities only and cannot treat or collect water;
- Obtains all its water from a public water system but is not owned or operated by it;
- Does not sell water; and
- Is not a carrier of passengers in interstate commerce.

Public water systems are either community or noncommunity. A community water system serves at least 15 service connections used by year-round residents or regularly serves at least 25 year-round residents. A noncommunity water system is either a nontransient noncommunity system or a transient noncommunity water system. A nontransient noncommunity water system serves at least 25 of the same persons over six months per year. A transient noncommunity water system has at least 15 service connections or regularly serves at least 25 persons daily at least 60 days out of the year but does not regularly serve 25 or more of the same persons for more than six months per year.²⁷

The CS provides that the DEP, or a local county health department designated by the DEP, is authorized at the request of the owner or operator of a transient noncommunity water system using groundwater as a source of supply and serving religious institutions, except those with school or day care services, to perform a sanitary survey. Upon receipt of satisfactory results, the DEP must reduce the monitoring and reporting requirements for such religious institutions.

Section 22 amends s. 403.973, F.S., relating to expedited permitting and comprehensive plan amendments.

Section 403.973, F.S., provides for an expedited permitting and comprehensive plan amendment process for certain projects that are identified to encourage and facilitate the location and expansion of economic development, offer job creation and high wages, strengthen and diversify the state's economy, and which have been thoughtfully planned to take into consideration the protection of the state's environment.

Under s. 403.973, F.S., OTTED or a Quick Permitting County may certify a business as eligible to use the process. Recommendations on which projects should use the process may come from Enterprise Florida, any county or municipality, or the Rural Economic Development Initiative (REDI). Eligibility criteria stipulate that a business must:

- Create at least 50 jobs; or

²⁶ See s. 403.852(2), F.S.

²⁷ See generally s. 403.852, F.S.

- Create 25 jobs if the project is located in an enterprise zone, in a county with a population of fewer than 75,000, or in a county with a population of fewer than 100,000 that is contiguous to a county having a population of 75,000 residing in incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county.

Regional Permit Action Teams are established by a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the secretary of the DEP directing the creation of these teams. The MOA is between the secretary and the applicant with input solicited from the DCA, DOT, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; the Regional Planning Councils; and the WMDs. The MOA accommodates participation by federal agencies, as necessary. At a local government's option, a special MOA may be developed on a case-by-case basis to allow some or all local development permits or orders to be covered under the expedited review. Implementation of the local government MOA requires a noticed public workshop and hearing.

Presently, certified projects receive the following benefits:

- Pre-application meeting of regulatory agencies and business representatives held within 14 days after eligibility determination;
- Identification of all necessary permits and approvals needed for the project;
- Designation of a project coordinator and regional permit action team contacts;
- Identification of the need for any special studies or reviews that may affect the time schedule;
- Identification of any areas of significant concern that may affect the outcome of the project review;
- Development of a consolidated time schedule that incorporates all required deadlines, including public meetings and notices;
- Final agency action on permit applications within 90 days from the receipt of complete application(s);
- Waiver of twice-a-year limitation on local comprehensive plan amendments; and
- Waiver of interstate highway concurrency with approved mitigation.

Appeals of expedited permitting projects are subject to the summary hearing provisions of s. 120.574, F.S. The administrative law judge's (ALJ) recommended order is not the final state agency action unless the participating agencies of the state opt at the preliminary hearing conference to allow the ALJ's decision to constitute the final agency action. Where only one state agency action is challenged, the agency of the state shall issue the final order within 10 working days of receipt of the ALJ's recommended order. In those proceedings where more than one state agency action is challenged, the Governor shall issue the final order within 10 working days of receipt of the ALJ's recommended order.

Expedited permitting provides a special assistance process for REDI counties. OTTED, working with REDI and the regional permitting teams, is to provide technical assistance in preparing permit applications for rural counties. This additional assistance may include providing guidance in land development regulations and permitting processes, and working cooperatively with state, regional and local entities to identify areas within these counties that may be suitable or adaptable for preclearance review of specified types of land uses and other activities requiring permits.

Section 403.973(19), F.S., prohibits the following projects from using the expedited process:

- A project funded and operated by a local government and located within that government's jurisdiction; or
- A project, the primary purpose of which is to:
 - Affect the final disposal of solid waste, biomedical waste, or hazardous waste in the state,
 - Produce electrical power (unless the production of electricity is incidental and not the project's primary function);
 - Extract natural resources;
 - Produce oil; or
 - Construct, maintain or operate an oil, petroleum, natural gas or sewage pipeline.

The CS revises the structure and process for expedited permitting of targeted industries. The CS expands eligibility for activities qualifying for expedited review to commercial or industrial development projects that will be occupied by businesses that would individually or collectively create at least 50 jobs. The CS requires regional teams to be established through the execution of a project-specific MOA. It clarifies that the standard form of the MOA will be used only if the local government participates in the expedited review process. It also fixes several technical errors stemming from the creation of the Department of Economic Opportunity in 2011.

Section 23 amends s. 526.203, F.S., relating to the sale of unblended fuels.

The Federal Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, signed into law on December 19, 2007, set the renewable fuels standard (RFS) minimum annual goal for renewable fuel use at 9.0 billion gallons in 2008 and 36 billion gallons by 2022. Beginning in 2016, all of the fuel increase in the RFS target must be met by advanced biofuels, defined as fuels derived from other than corn starch.²⁸ Motor gasoline and diesel fuel, both fossil fuels, make up more than 87 percent of Florida's transportation energy costs, with aviation fuel accounting for less than 10 percent.

The Legislature passed a comprehensive energy bill in 2008 that, in part, established the Florida Renewable Fuel Standard Act (Act). The act provided the following definitions:

- "Fuel ethanol" means an anhydrous denatured alcohol produced by the conversion of carbohydrates meeting the specifications as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- "Blended gasoline" means a mixture of ninety percent gasoline and ten percent fuel ethanol meeting the specifications as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The ten percent fuel ethanol portion may be derived from any agricultural source.
- "Unblended gasoline" means gasoline that has not been blended with fuel ethanol meeting the specifications as adopted by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- "10 percent" means 9-10 percent ethanol by volume.

The act provided that by December 31, 2010, all gasoline sold or offered for sale in Florida by a terminal supplier, importer, blender or wholesaler was to contain, at a minimum, 10 percent of agriculturally derived, denatured ethanol fuel by volume.

²⁸ U.S. Dep't of Energy, *Federal & State Incentives & Laws*, <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/laws/eisa> (last visited Jan. 13, 2012).

The following are exempt from the act:

- Fuel used in aircraft;
- Fuel sold at marinas and mooring docks for use in boats and similar watercraft;
- Fuel sold to a blender;
- Fuel sold for use in collector vehicles or vehicles eligible to be licensed as collector vehicles, offroad vehicles, motorcycles, or small engines;
- Fuel unable to comply due to requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency;
- Fuel bulk transferred between terminals;
- Fuel exported from the state in accordance with s. 206.052, F.S.;
- Fuel qualifying for any exemption in accordance with ch. 206, F.S.;
- Fuel at an electric power plant that is regulated by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission unless such commission has approved the use of fuel meeting the requirements of the act;
- Fuel for a railroad locomotive; and
- Fuel for equipment, including vehicle or vessel, covered by a warranty that would be voided, if explicitly stated in writing by the vehicle or vessel manufacturer, if it were to be operated using fuel meeting the requirements of the act.

The CS clarifies that s. 526.203, F.S., does not prohibit the sale of unblended fuels for the uses exempted in s. 526.203(3), F.S., as listed above. It also expands the definition of “blended gasoline” to include alternative fuels other than ethanol. It specifies that the alternative fuel portion of the 9 to 10 percent for blended fuels may be derived from any agricultural source. The CS defines “alternative fuel” as fuel derived from biomass to replace or reduce fossil fuels used for transportation fuel. Within the definition of “alternative fuel,” the CS specifies that “biomass” means the definition provided in s. 366.91, F.S., and “alternative fuel” means the definition provided in s. 525.01(1)(c), F.S., which is suitable for blending with gasoline (not diesel-derived fuels).

Section 24 creates an unnumbered section of law addressing permit extensions granted by the Legislature to account for the economic downturn.

Chapter 2011-139, ss. 73 and 79 of the Laws of Florida provide that any building permit and any permit issued by the DEP or by a WMD, pursuant to ch. 373, part IV, F.S., which has an expiration date between January 1, 2012, and January 1, 2014, is extended and renewed for a period of two years after its previously scheduled date of expiration. The extension includes any local government-issued development order or building permit including certificates of levels of service.

The extension does not apply to permits:

- issued by the Army Corps of Engineers;
- held by an owner or operator determined to be in significant noncompliance with the conditions of the permit as established through the issuance of a warning letter or notice of violation, the initiation of formal enforcement, or other equivalent action by the authorizing agency; or

- that, if granted an extension, would delay or prevent compliance with a court order.

There are some local governments charging renewal fees for permits that were extended automatically by the Legislature if their expiration dates fell within the specified dates. The intent of ch. 2011-139, ss. 73 and 79 of the Laws of Florida was to automatically extend certain permits to allow for the economy to recover. It was never the intent to authorize issuing agencies to charge for permit extensions granted under these sections.

The CS specifies that the holder of a valid permit or other authorization is not required to pay a renewal fee to an authorizing agency for an extension granted under ch. 2011-139, ss. 73 or 79 of the Laws of Florida. The CS applies this provision retroactively to June 2, 2011.

Section 25 provides an effective of July 1, 2012.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

Issuing agencies for permits with expiration dates between January 1, 2012 and December 31, 2012 are prohibited from collecting renewal fees. This provision is retroactive to June 2, 2012.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Reducing environmental permitting requirements, time, necessity and compliance costs will collectively save business and individuals significant amounts of money; however, the savings cannot be calculated on an individual basis. Expansion of Internet-based self-certification and additional general permits may also reduce costs for constructing qualifying projects.

Owners and operators of lined solid waste management facilities that opt for longer-term permits may benefit from the increased predictability those longer permits provide. For example, it may be easier to obtain financing for these projects and operational and design criteria are less likely to need updating and amending as frequently. After five

years, the cost savings from not having to apply for and receive permit renewals will be significant.

Solid waste management facilities will have more flexibility when preparing to apply for permits as the life of the permit will be increased by 15 years. Further, the costs associated with filing renewal applications will decrease.

Owners and operators of unlined solid waste management facilities that meet DEP's requirements may opt for longer-term permits and may benefit from the increased predictability such longer permits provide.

Owners or operators of transient noncommunity water systems using groundwater as their source of drinking water serving religious institutions may have reduced reporting and monitoring costs.

Increasing the qualifying low-scored site initiative priority ranking score from 10 to 29 may significantly benefit owners of contaminated sites who do not currently qualify. The impact, which may be significant on a cumulative and individual basis, cannot be determined because the program is voluntary.

A child of an original owner or a corporation created to hold title to a contaminated site who gained ownership of that site through the transfer of the property may qualify for financial assistance to aid cleanup of the site. Previous applicants who were denied may reapply. The DEP estimates the average cost to clean up a contaminated site is \$380,000.

Producers of alternative fuels, other than ethanol, may benefit from expanding the types of fuels that may be blended with gasoline.

Lastly, an individual who paid a permit renewal fee since June 2, 2011, will get a refund of that fee if the permit qualifies. Renewal fees for qualifying permits can be hundreds of dollars.

C. Government Sector Impact:

State Government Impact:

The DEP has estimated there will be an unknown impact to the Permit Fee Trust Fund associated with reducing or waiving permit processing fees for entities created by special acts, local ordinances, and interlocal agreements by low-population counties.

Expanding the eligibility criteria for the Innocent Victim Petroleum Storage System Restoration will likely result in more sites being eligible to participate in the state-funded cleanup program. As mentioned above, the average cost of each cleanup is \$380,000. The number of additional sites that may be eligible is unknown.

The DEP anticipates an increase in the amount of fees collected due to the extended length of certain permits. This increase will level out, as the new permits will not need to

be renewed as often. In addition, there may be some cases when the costs associated with closing a facility would exceed the face value of the insurance policy. In this instance, Solid Waste Trust Fund dollars would need to be spent and would not be reimbursed by an insurance company.

Increasing the qualifying low-scored site initiative priority ranking score may allow the DEP to clear the backlog of contaminated sites more quickly. There are 4,865 sites that scored 29 or lower. Due to the backlog, the DEP may not realize any savings in the short-term but may in the long-term if the backlog of contaminated sites can be eliminated. Given that participation in the program is voluntary for owners of contaminated sites, the impact is indeterminate.

All other impacts to the DEP can be absorbed by existing staff and resources.

WMD governing boards may have to schedule additional meetings in order to comply with taking a denial action within 60 days of receiving completed permit applications. However, some permits will fall within a normal governing board meeting schedule and will not require any additional costs for a WMD to take action. Meeting costs vary by WMD and cannot be determined at this time. Since denials are infrequent because WMD staff work with applicants to avoid such action, the impact of this provision may be negligible.

Local Government Impact:

As with the private sector, when a local government is a permit applicant, reducing environmental permitting requirements, time, necessity and compliance costs will collectively save significant amounts of money; however, the savings cannot be calculated on an individual, local government basis.

When a local government is an ERP permit applicant, shortened permitting time clocks might reduce costs to obtain a permit if overall permit times are actually reduced, and the provisions do not result in additional permit denials or the need for timeclock waivers.

Entities created by special acts, local ordinances or interlocal agreements of certain local governments will pay fewer permit fees so the savings would likely be passed on to the local government but without knowing how many of these entities exist, the actual effect is unknown.

Financially disadvantaged municipalities with a population between 7,500 and 10,000 will now be eligible for wastewater grants under the Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance Act.

There may be a negative impact to local governments for reductions to recycling credits issued for WTE facilities. The impact would be greatest if grants or other funding is tied to achieving or maintaining a specific recycling goal and the changes in the CS resulted in a local government falling below a specified goal.

The provision in the bill making retroactive the prohibition that holders of extended permits make payments on such permits could result in a negative impact on local government revenues if local governments are required to return any such payments they collected. However, this is not revenue the Legislature intended to authorize local governments to collect when it extended certain permits in ch. 2011-139, ss. 73 and 79 of the Laws of Florida.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

On lines 932, 940, 956, 971 and 1052, “memoranda” should be changed to “memorandum.”

VII. Related Issues:

The WMD governing boards are responsible for approving or denying certain permits. While some approval functions are delegated from the governing boards to the staffs, denial actions can only be taken by the governing boards. They typically do not meet on a schedule that would allow for consistent denials of permits within 60 days. Denials are infrequent because WMD staff work with applicants to avoid such actions.

Section 403.707(2)(c), F.S., allows persons, which are statutorily defined to include corporations,²⁹ to dispose of solid waste *resulting* from their own activities on their own properties. The CS allows *facilities* to dispose of solid waste in new areas without a permit or certification if certain leachate and monitoring plans are in place. This provision, if interpreted broadly, may allow for expansion of a solid waste facility to a new area without a permit or certification even if the solid waste was not *generated* on the property where it was being disposed. This is not the intention of the CS. Clarification may be needed to ensure this provision only applies to facilities that generate and dispose of their own solid waste on their own properties.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:

- Clarifies the act applies to development permit applications filed with a county or municipality after July 1, 2012, related to conditioning permit issuance on prior state or federal permits or approvals;
- Authorizes the DEP to issue coastal construction permits before an incidental take authorization is issued pursuant to the ESA;
- Deletes provision exempting the dredge and fill activities of a public waterfront promenade in the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve;
- Deletes provisions related to an intermodal logistics center or inland logistics center (inland port) for facilities designation of the Strategic Intermodal System;
- Clarifies that the State Underground Injection Control Program does not apply to Class I, II, III, IV or V wells, except for Class V, Group 1 wells;

²⁹ Section 403.703(22), F.S.

- Deletes provisions that required counties and municipalities to apply for delegation of the ERP program or be preempted from permitting activities that affected surface water and groundwater resources;
- Raises the priority ranking score for the low-scored site initiative from 10 to 29;
- Clarifies that a facility's zone of discharge extends horizontally to the property boundary and vertically to the base of the authorized aquifer; however, it may be modified in accordance with DEP rules;
- Clarifies the DEP may revoke a permit if the permit holder has violated a law, DEP order, rule or condition, which directly relate to the permit;
- Reduces recycling credits for certain WTE facilities;
- Clarifies that recycled byproducts from WTE count towards a county's recycling goals or, if not recycled, is considered waste;
- Requires the DEP to allow WTE facilities to maximize their acceptance of nonhazardous solid and liquid waste;
- Deletes provisions that amended s. 403.709, F.S., relating to solid waste management facility closure accounts;
- Directs the DEP to require certain financial assurance from owners or operators of solid waste management facilities for corrective actions for violations of water quality standards;
- In Section 20, changes "and" to "or" for a list of four impacts that would make a surface water management system ineligible for a general permit;
- Specifies that alternative fuels other than ethanol may be used as blending fuels for blending gasoline;
- Provides a definition for "alternative fuel" with clarifications for "biomass" and "alternative fuel" as used within that definition; and
- Provides that payment of permit extension fees are not required for permit extension authorized in ch. 2011-139, ss. 73 and 79 of the Laws of Florida.

CS by Community Affairs on January 12, 2012:

- Deletes sections related to RAI requirements; permitting beach management projects and extending deadlines for upgrades to secondary containment systems for fuel tank systems;
- Moves provisions related to inland ports from s. 166.3180, F.S. to s. 339.63, F.S.;
- Exempts previously authorized underground injection wells from ch. 373, part III, F.S., relating to the regulation of wells;
- Directs the Secretary of Transportation to designate certain facilities as part of the SIS;
- Revises and expands eligibility for sites that may qualify for an inland port;
- Removes the 5-year duration for transportation impacts from an inland port that allows for up to a 150 percent increase in the adopted level of service;
- Requires a county or a municipality with a specified population by July 1, 2012, to apply for delegation of authority by certain deadlines for environmental resource permitting;
- Includes many provisions from CS/SB 938, related to solid waste disposal, management and permitting; and
- Expands the definitions used as part of the renewable fuel standards.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
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	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Jones) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 125.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

125.022 Development permits.—When a county denies an application for a development permit, the county shall give written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule, statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit. As used in this section, the term “development permit” has the



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13 same meaning as in s. 163.3164. For any development permit
14 application filed with the county after July 1, 2012, a county
15 may not require as a condition of processing or issuing a
16 development permit that an applicant obtain a permit or approval
17 from any state or federal agency unless the agency has issued a
18 final agency action that denies the federal or state permit
19 before the county action on the local development permit.
20 Issuance of a development permit by a county does not in any way
21 create any rights on the part of the applicant to obtain a
22 permit from a state or federal agency and does not create any
23 liability on the part of the county for issuance of the permit
24 if the applicant fails to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill
25 the obligations imposed by a state or federal agency or
26 undertakes actions that result in a violation of state or
27 federal law. A county may attach such a disclaimer to the
28 issuance of a development permit and may include a permit
29 condition that all other applicable state or federal permits be
30 obtained before commencement of the development. This section
31 does not prohibit a county from providing information to an
32 applicant regarding what other state or federal permits may
33 apply.

34 Section 2. Subsection (5) is added to section 161.041,
35 Florida Statutes, to read:

36 161.041 Permits required.—

37 (5) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
38 department may issue a permit pursuant to this part in advance
39 of the issuance of an incidental take authorization as provided
40 under the Endangered Species Act and its implementing
41 regulations if the permit and authorization include a condition



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42 requiring that authorized activities not begin until the
43 incidental take authorization is issued.

44 Section 3. Section 166.033, Florida Statutes, is amended to
45 read:

46 166.033 Development permits.—When a municipality denies an
47 application for a development permit, the municipality shall
48 give written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a
49 citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule,
50 statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit.
51 As used in this section, the term “development permit” has the
52 same meaning as in s. 163.3164. For any development permit
53 application filed with the municipality after July 1, 2012, a
54 municipality may not require as a condition of processing or
55 issuing a development permit that an applicant obtain a permit
56 or approval from any state or federal agency unless the agency
57 has issued a final agency action that denies the federal or
58 state permit before the municipal action on the local
59 development permit. Issuance of a development permit by a
60 municipality does not in any way create any right on the part of
61 an applicant to obtain a permit from a state or federal agency
62 and does not create any liability on the part of the
63 municipality for issuance of the permit if the applicant fails
64 to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill the obligations imposed
65 by a state or federal agency or undertakes actions that result
66 in a violation of state or federal law. A municipality may
67 attach such a disclaimer to the issuance of development permits
68 and may include a permit condition that all other applicable
69 state or federal permits be obtained before commencement of the
70 development. This section does not prohibit a municipality from



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71 providing information to an applicant regarding what other state
72 or federal permits may apply.

73 Section 4. Section 218.075, Florida Statutes, is amended to
74 read:

75 218.075 Reduction or waiver of permit processing fees.—
76 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of
77 Environmental Protection and the water management districts
78 shall reduce or waive permit processing fees for counties with a
79 population of 50,000 or less on April 1, 1994, until such
80 counties exceed a population of 75,000 and municipalities with a
81 population of 25,000 or less, or for an entity created by
82 special act, local ordinance, or interlocal agreement of such
83 counties or municipalities, or for any county or municipality
84 not included within a metropolitan statistical area. Fee
85 reductions or waivers shall be approved on the basis of fiscal
86 hardship or environmental need for a particular project or
87 activity. The governing body must certify that the cost of the
88 permit processing fee is a fiscal hardship due to one of the
89 following factors:

90 (1) Per capita taxable value is less than the statewide
91 average for the current fiscal year;

92 (2) Percentage of assessed property value that is exempt
93 from ad valorem taxation is higher than the statewide average
94 for the current fiscal year;

95 (3) Any condition specified in s. 218.503(1) which results
96 in the county or municipality being in a state of financial
97 emergency;

98 (4) Ad valorem operating millage rate for the current
99 fiscal year is greater than 8 mills; or



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100 (5) A financial condition that is documented in annual
101 financial statements at the end of the current fiscal year and
102 indicates an inability to pay the permit processing fee during
103 that fiscal year.

104

105 The permit applicant must be the governing body of a county
106 or municipality or a third party under contract with a county or
107 municipality or an entity created by special act, local
108 ordinance, or interlocal agreement and the project for which the
109 fee reduction or waiver is sought must serve a public purpose.
110 If a permit processing fee is reduced, the total fee shall not
111 exceed \$100.

112 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section
113 258.397, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

114 258.397 Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve.—

115 (3) AUTHORITY OF TRUSTEES.—The Board of Trustees of the
116 Internal Improvement Trust Fund is authorized and directed to
117 maintain the aquatic preserve hereby created pursuant and
118 subject to the following provisions:

119 (a) ~~No further~~ Sale, transfer, or lease of sovereignty
120 submerged lands in the preserve may not ~~shall~~ be approved or
121 consummated by the board of trustees, except upon a showing of
122 extreme hardship on the part of the applicant and a
123 determination by the board of trustees that such sale, transfer,
124 or lease is in the public interest. A municipal applicant
125 proposing a public waterfront promenade is exempt from showing
126 extreme hardship.

127 Section 6. Subsection (10) is added to section 373.026,
128 Florida Statutes, to read:



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129 373.026 General powers and duties of the department.—The
130 department, or its successor agency, shall be responsible for
131 the administration of this chapter at the state level. However,
132 it is the policy of the state that, to the greatest extent
133 possible, the department may enter into interagency or
134 interlocal agreements with any other state agency, any water
135 management district, or any local government conducting programs
136 related to or materially affecting the water resources of the
137 state. All such agreements shall be subject to the provisions of
138 s. 373.046. In addition to its other powers and duties, the
139 department shall, to the greatest extent possible:

140 (10) Expand the use of Internet-based self-certification
141 services for appropriate exemptions and general permits issued
142 by the department and the water management districts, if such
143 expansion is economically feasible. In addition to expanding the
144 use of Internet-based self-certification services for
145 appropriate exemptions and general permits, the department and
146 water management districts shall identify and develop general
147 permits for appropriate activities currently requiring
148 individual review which could be expedited through the use of
149 applicable professional certification.

150 Section 7. Subsection (3) is added to section 373.326,
151 Florida Statutes, to read:

152 373.326 Exemptions.—

153 (3) A permit may not be required under this part for any
154 well authorized pursuant to ss. 403.061 and 403.087 under the
155 State Underground Injection Control Program identified in
156 chapter 62-528, Florida Administrative Code, as Class I, Class
157 II, Class III, Class IV, or Class V Groups 2-9. However, such



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158 wells must be constructed by persons who have obtained a license
159 pursuant to s. 373.323 as otherwise required by law.

160 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 373.4141, Florida
161 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that
162 section, to read:

163 373.4141 Permits; processing.—

164 (2) A permit shall be approved, ~~or~~ denied, or subject to a
165 notice of proposed agency action within 60 ~~90~~ days after receipt
166 of the original application, the last item of timely requested
167 additional material, or the applicant's written request to begin
168 processing the permit application.

169 (4) A state agency or an agency of the state may not
170 require as a condition of approval for a permit or as an item to
171 complete a pending permit application that an applicant obtain a
172 permit or approval from any other local, state, or federal
173 agency without explicit statutory authority to require such
174 permit or approval.

175 Section 9. Section 373.4144, Florida Statutes, is amended
176 to read:

177 373.4144 Federal environmental permitting.—

178 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to:

179 (a) Facilitate coordination and a more efficient process of
180 implementing regulatory duties and functions between the
181 Department of Environmental Protection, the water management
182 districts, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the United
183 States Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries
184 Service, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the
185 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and other relevant
186 federal and state agencies.



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187 (b) Authorize the Department of Environmental Protection to
188 obtain issuance by the United States Army Corps of Engineers,
189 pursuant to state and federal law and as set forth in this
190 section, of an expanded state programmatic general permit, or a
191 series of regional general permits, for categories of activities
192 in waters of the United States governed by the Clean Water Act
193 and in navigable waters under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
194 which are similar in nature, which will cause only minimal
195 adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and
196 which will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the
197 environment.

198 (c) Use the mechanism of such a state general permit or
199 such regional general permits to eliminate overlapping federal
200 regulations and state rules that seek to protect the same
201 resource and to avoid duplication of permitting between the
202 United States Army Corps of Engineers and the department for
203 minor work located in waters of the United States, including
204 navigable waters, thus eliminating, in appropriate cases, the
205 need for a separate individual approval from the United States
206 Army Corps of Engineers while ensuring the most stringent
207 protection of wetland resources.

208 (d) Direct the department not to seek issuance of or take
209 any action pursuant to any such permit or permits unless such
210 conditions are at least as protective of the environment and
211 natural resources as existing state law under this part and
212 federal law under the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors
213 Act of 1899. ~~The department is directed to develop, on or before~~
214 ~~October 1, 2005, a mechanism or plan to consolidate, to the~~
215 ~~maximum extent practicable, the federal and state wetland~~



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216 ~~permitting programs. It is the intent of the Legislature that~~
217 ~~all dredge and fill activities impacting 10 acres or less of~~
218 ~~wetlands or waters, including navigable waters, be processed by~~
219 ~~the state as part of the environmental resource permitting~~
220 ~~program implemented by the department and the water management~~
221 ~~districts. The resulting mechanism or plan shall analyze and~~
222 ~~propose the development of an expanded state programmatic~~
223 ~~general permit program in conjunction with the United States~~
224 ~~Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to s. 404 of the Clean Water~~
225 ~~Act, Pub. L. No. 92-500, as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq.,~~
226 ~~and s. 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Alternatively,~~
227 ~~or in combination with an expanded state programmatic general~~
228 ~~permit, the mechanism or plan may propose the creation of a~~
229 ~~series of regional general permits issued by the United States~~
230 ~~Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to the referenced statutes. All~~
231 ~~of the regional general permits must be administered by the~~
232 ~~department or the water management districts or their designees.~~

233 (2) In order to effectuate efficient wetland permitting and
234 avoid duplication, the department and water management districts
235 are authorized to implement a voluntary state programmatic
236 general permit for all dredge and fill activities impacting 3
237 acres or less of wetlands or other surface waters, including
238 navigable waters, subject to agreement with the United States
239 Army Corps of Engineers, if the general permit is at least as
240 protective of the environment and natural resources as existing
241 state law under this part and federal law under the Clean Water
242 Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. The department is
243 ~~directed to file with the Speaker of the House of~~
244 ~~Representatives and the President of the Senate a report~~



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245 ~~proposing any required federal and state statutory changes that~~
246 ~~would be necessary to accomplish the directives listed in this~~
247 ~~section and to coordinate with the Florida Congressional~~
248 ~~Delegation on any necessary changes to federal law to implement~~
249 ~~the directives.~~

250 (3) ~~Nothing in~~ This section may not shall be construed to
251 preclude the department from pursuing a series of regional
252 general permits for construction activities in wetlands or
253 surface waters or complete assumption of federal permitting
254 programs regulating the discharge of dredged or fill material
255 pursuant to s. 404 of the Clean Water Act, Pub. L. No. 92-500,
256 as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq., and s. 10 of the Rivers
257 and Harbors Act of 1899, so long as the assumption encompasses
258 all dredge and fill activities in, on, or over jurisdictional
259 wetlands or waters, including navigable waters, within the
260 state.

261 Section 10. Subsection (11) of section 376.3071, Florida
262 Statutes, is amended to read:

263 376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes;
264 funding.—

265 (11) SITE CLEANUP.—

266 (a) *Voluntary cleanup.*—~~Nothing in~~ This section shall does
267 not be deemed to prohibit a person from conducting site
268 rehabilitation either through his or her own personnel or
269 through responsible response action contractors or
270 subcontractors when such person is not seeking site
271 rehabilitation funding from the fund. Such voluntary cleanups
272 must meet all applicable environmental standards.

273 (b) *Low-scored site initiative.*—Notwithstanding s.



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274 376.30711, any site with a priority ranking score of 29 ~~10~~
275 points or less may voluntarily participate in the low-scored
276 site initiative, whether or not the site is eligible for state
277 restoration funding.

278 1. To participate in the low-scored site initiative, the
279 responsible party or property owner must affirmatively
280 demonstrate that the following conditions are met:

281 a. Upon reassessment pursuant to department rule, the site
282 retains a priority ranking score of 29 ~~10~~ points or less.

283 b. No excessively contaminated soil, as defined by
284 department rule, exists onsite as a result of a release of
285 petroleum products.

286 c. A minimum of 6 months of groundwater monitoring
287 indicates that the plume is shrinking or stable.

288 d. The release of petroleum products at the site does not
289 adversely affect adjacent surface waters, including their
290 effects on human health and the environment.

291 e. The area of groundwater containing the petroleum
292 products' chemicals of concern is less than one-quarter acre and
293 is confined to the source property boundaries of the real
294 property on which the discharge originated.

295 f. Soils onsite that are subject to human exposure found
296 between land surface and 2 feet below land surface meet the soil
297 cleanup target levels established by department rule or human
298 exposure is limited by appropriate institutional or engineering
299 controls.

300 2. Upon affirmative demonstration of the conditions under
301 subparagraph 1., the department shall issue a determination of
302 "No Further Action." Such determination acknowledges that



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303 minimal contamination exists onsite and that such contamination
304 is not a threat to human health or the environment. If no
305 contamination is detected, the department may issue a site
306 rehabilitation completion order.

307 3. Sites that are eligible for state restoration funding
308 may receive payment of preapproved costs for the low-scored site
309 initiative as follows:

310 a. A responsible party or property owner may submit an
311 assessment plan designed to affirmatively demonstrate that the
312 site meets the conditions under subparagraph 1. Notwithstanding
313 the priority ranking score of the site, the department may
314 preapprove the cost of the assessment pursuant to s. 376.30711,
315 including 6 months of groundwater monitoring, not to exceed
316 \$30,000 for each site. The department may not pay the costs
317 associated with the establishment of institutional or
318 engineering controls.

319 b. The assessment work shall be completed no later than 6
320 months after the department issues its approval.

321 c. No more than \$10 million for the low-scored site
322 initiative may ~~shall~~ be encumbered from the Inland Protection
323 Trust Fund in any fiscal year. Funds shall be made available on
324 a first-come, first-served basis and shall be limited to 10
325 sites in each fiscal year for each responsible party or property
326 owner.

327 d. Program deductibles, copayments, and the limited
328 contamination assessment report requirements under paragraph
329 (13) (c) do not apply to expenditures under this paragraph.

330 Section 11. Section 376.30715, Florida Statutes, is amended
331 to read:



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332 376.30715 Innocent victim petroleum storage system
333 restoration.—A contaminated site acquired by the current owner
334 prior to July 1, 1990, which has ceased operating as a petroleum
335 storage or retail business prior to January 1, 1985, is eligible
336 for financial assistance pursuant to s. 376.305(6),
337 notwithstanding s. 376.305(6)(a). For purposes of this section,
338 the term “acquired” means the acquisition of title to the
339 property; however, a subsequent transfer of the property to a
340 spouse or child of the owner, a surviving spouse or child of the
341 owner in trust or free of trust, ~~or~~ a revocable trust created
342 for the benefit of the settlor, or a corporate entity created by
343 the owner to hold title to the site does not disqualify the site
344 from financial assistance pursuant to s. 376.305(6) and
345 applicants previously denied coverage may reapply. Eligible
346 sites shall be ranked in accordance with s. 376.3071(5).

347 Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 380.0657, Florida
348 Statutes, is amended to read:

349 380.0657 Expedited permitting process for economic
350 development projects.—

351 (1) The Department of Environmental Protection and, as
352 appropriate, the water management districts created under
353 chapter 373 shall adopt programs to expedite the processing of
354 wetland resource and environmental resource permits for economic
355 development projects that have been identified by a municipality
356 or county as meeting the definition of target industry
357 businesses under s. 288.106, or any intermodal logistics center
358 receiving or sending cargo to or from Florida ports, with the
359 exception of those projects requiring approval by the Board of
360 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.



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361 Section 13. Subsection (11) of section 403.061, Florida
362 Statutes, is amended to read:

363 403.061 Department; powers and duties.—The department shall
364 have the power and the duty to control and prohibit pollution of
365 air and water in accordance with the law and rules adopted and
366 promulgated by it and, for this purpose, to:

367 (11) Establish ambient air quality and water quality
368 standards for the state as a whole or for any part thereof, and
369 also standards for the abatement of excessive and unnecessary
370 noise. The department is authorized to establish reasonable
371 zones of mixing for discharges into waters. For existing
372 installations as defined by rule 62-520.200(10), Florida
373 Administrative Code, effective July 12, 2009, zones of discharge
374 to groundwater are authorized horizontally to a facility's or
375 owner's property boundary and extending vertically to the base
376 of a specifically designated aquifer or aquifers. Such zones of
377 discharge may be modified in accordance with procedures
378 specified in department rules. Exceedance of primary and
379 secondary groundwater standards that occur within a zone of
380 discharge does not create liability pursuant to this chapter or
381 chapter 376 for site cleanup, and the exceedance of soil cleanup
382 target levels is not a basis for enforcement or site cleanup.

383 (a) When a receiving body of water fails to meet a water
384 quality standard for pollutants set forth in department rules, a
385 steam electric generating plant discharge of pollutants that is
386 existing or licensed under this chapter on July 1, 1984, may
387 nevertheless be granted a mixing zone, provided that:

388 1. The standard would not be met in the water body in the
389 absence of the discharge;



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390 2. The discharge is in compliance with all applicable
391 technology-based effluent limitations;

392 3. The discharge does not cause a measurable increase in
393 the degree of noncompliance with the standard at the boundary of
394 the mixing zone; and

395 4. The discharge otherwise complies with the mixing zone
396 provisions specified in department rules.

397 (b) ~~No~~ Mixing zones ~~zone~~ for point source discharges are
398 not shall be permitted in Outstanding Florida Waters except for:

399 1. Sources that have received permits from the department
400 prior to April 1, 1982, or the date of designation, whichever is
401 later;

402 2. Blowdown from new power plants certified pursuant to the
403 Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act;

404 3. Discharges of water necessary for water management
405 purposes which have been approved by the governing board of a
406 water management district and, if required by law, by the
407 secretary; and

408 4. The discharge of demineralization concentrate which has
409 been determined permissible under s. 403.0882 and which meets
410 the specific provisions of s. 403.0882(4)(a) and (b), if the
411 proposed discharge is clearly in the public interest.

412 (c) The department, by rule, shall establish water quality
413 criteria for wetlands which criteria give appropriate
414 recognition to the water quality of such wetlands in their
415 natural state.

416

417 ~~Nothing in~~ This act may not shall be construed to
418 invalidate any existing department rule relating to mixing



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419 zones. The department shall cooperate with the Department of
420 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in the development of
421 regulations required by s. 316.272(1).
422

423 The department shall implement such programs in conjunction
424 with its other powers and duties and shall place special
425 emphasis on reducing and eliminating contamination that presents
426 a threat to humans, animals or plants, or to the environment.

427 Section 14. Subsection (7) of section 403.087, Florida
428 Statutes, is amended to read:

429 403.087 Permits; general issuance; denial; revocation;
430 prohibition; penalty.-

431 (7) A permit issued pursuant to this section does ~~shall~~ not
432 become a vested right in the permittee. The department may
433 revoke any permit issued by it if it finds that the permit holder
434 has:

435 (a) ~~Has~~ Submitted false or inaccurate information in the
436 ~~his or her~~ application for the permit;

437 (b) ~~Has~~ Violated law, department orders, rules, ~~or~~
438 ~~regulations~~, or ~~permit~~ conditions which directly relate to the
439 permit;

440 (c) ~~Has~~ Failed to submit operational reports or other
441 information required by department rule which directly relate to
442 the permit and has refused to correct or cure such violations
443 when requested to do so ~~or regulation~~; or

444 (d) ~~Has~~ Refused lawful inspection under s. 403.091 at the
445 facility authorized by the permit.

446 Section 15. Subsection (2) of section 403.1838, Florida
447 Statutes, is amended to read:



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448 403.1838 Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance
449 Act.—

450 (2) The department shall use funds specifically
451 appropriated to award grants under this section to assist
452 financially disadvantaged small communities with their needs for
453 adequate sewer facilities. For purposes of this section, the
454 term “financially disadvantaged small community” means a
455 municipality that has ~~with~~ a population of 10,000 ~~7,500~~ or fewer
456 ~~less~~, according to the latest decennial census and a per capita
457 annual income less than the state per capita annual income as
458 determined by the United States Department of Commerce.

459 Section 16. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section
460 403.7045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

461 403.7045 Application of act and integration with other
462 acts.—

463 (1) The following wastes or activities shall not be
464 regulated pursuant to this act:

465 (f) Industrial byproducts, if:

466 1. A majority of the industrial byproducts are demonstrated
467 to be sold, used, or reused within 1 year.

468 2. The industrial byproducts are not discharged, deposited,
469 injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed upon any land or
470 water so that such industrial byproducts, or any constituent
471 thereof, may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or
472 discharged into any waters, including groundwaters, or otherwise
473 enter the environment such that a threat of contamination in
474 excess of applicable department standards and criteria or a
475 significant threat to public health is caused.

476 3. The industrial byproducts are not hazardous wastes as



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477 defined under s. 403.703 and rules adopted under this section.

478

479 Sludge from an industrial waste treatment works that meets
480 the exemption requirements of this paragraph is not solid waste
481 as defined in s. 403.703(32).

482 Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section
483 403.706, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

484 403.706 Local government solid waste responsibilities.—

485 (4) (a) In order to promote the production of renewable
486 energy from solid waste, each megawatt-hour produced by a
487 renewable energy facility using solid waste as a fuel shall
488 count as 1 ton of recycled material and shall be applied toward
489 meeting the recycling goals set forth in this section. If a
490 county creating renewable energy from solid waste implements and
491 maintains a program to recycle at least 50 percent of municipal
492 solid waste by a means other than creating renewable energy,
493 that county shall count 1.25 ~~2~~ tons of recycled material for
494 each megawatt-hour produced. If waste originates from a county
495 other than the county in which the renewable energy facility
496 resides, the originating county shall receive such recycling
497 credit. ~~Any county that has a debt service payment related to~~
498 ~~its waste to energy facility shall receive 1 ton of recycled~~
499 ~~materials credit for each ton of solid waste processed at the~~
500 ~~facility.~~ Any byproduct resulting from the creation of renewable
501 energy that is recycled shall count towards the county recycling
502 goals in accordance with the methods and criteria developed
503 pursuant to paragraph (2) (h) does not count as waste.

504 Section 18. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section
505 403.707, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:



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506 403.707 Permits.-

507 (1) A solid waste management facility may not be operated,
508 maintained, constructed, expanded, modified, or closed without
509 an appropriate and currently valid permit issued by the
510 department. The department may by rule exempt specified types of
511 facilities from the requirement for a permit under this part if
512 it determines that construction or operation of the facility is
513 not expected to create any significant threat to the environment
514 or public health. For purposes of this part, and only when
515 specified by department rule, a permit may include registrations
516 as well as other forms of licenses as defined in s. 120.52.
517 Solid waste construction permits issued under this section may
518 include any permit conditions necessary to achieve compliance
519 with the recycling requirements of this act. The department
520 shall pursue reasonable timeframes for closure and construction
521 requirements, considering pending federal requirements and
522 implementation costs to the permittee. The department shall
523 adopt a rule establishing performance standards for construction
524 and closure of solid waste management facilities. The standards
525 shall allow flexibility in design and consideration for site-
526 specific characteristics. For the purpose of permitting under
527 this chapter, the department shall allow waste-to-energy
528 facilities to maximize acceptance and processing of nonhazardous
529 solid and liquid waste.

530 (2) Except as provided in s. 403.722(6), a permit under
531 this section is not required for the following, ~~if the activity~~
532 ~~does not create a public nuisance or any condition adversely~~
533 ~~affecting the environment or public health and does not violate~~
534 ~~other state or local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, or~~



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535 ~~orders:~~

536 (a) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their
537 own activities on their own property, if such waste is ordinary
538 household waste from their residential property or is rocks,
539 soils, trees, tree remains, and other vegetative matter that
540 normally result from land development operations. Disposal of
541 materials that could create a public nuisance or adversely
542 affect the environment or public health, such as white goods;
543 automotive materials, such as batteries and tires; petroleum
544 products; pesticides; solvents; or hazardous substances, is not
545 covered under this exemption.

546 (b) Storage in containers by persons of solid waste
547 resulting from their own activities on their property, leased or
548 rented property, or property subject to a homeowners' ~~homeowners~~
549 or maintenance association for which the person contributes
550 association assessments, if the solid waste in such containers
551 is collected at least once a week.

552 (c) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their
553 own activities on their property, if the environmental effects
554 of such disposal on groundwater and surface waters are:

555 1. Addressed or authorized by a site certification order
556 issued under part II or a permit issued by the department under
557 this chapter or rules adopted pursuant to this chapter; or

558 2. Addressed or authorized by, or exempted from the
559 requirement to obtain, a groundwater monitoring plan approved by
560 the department. If a facility has a permit authorizing disposal
561 activity, new areas where solid waste is being disposed of which
562 are monitored by an existing or modified groundwater monitoring
563 plan are not required to be specifically authorized in a permit



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564 or other certification.

565 (d) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their
566 own activities on their own property, if such disposal occurred
567 prior to October 1, 1988.

568 (e) Disposal of solid waste resulting from normal farming
569 operations as defined by department rule. Polyethylene
570 agricultural plastic, damaged, nonsalvageable, untreated wood
571 pallets, and packing material that cannot be feasibly recycled,
572 which are used in connection with agricultural operations
573 related to the growing, harvesting, or maintenance of crops, may
574 be disposed of by open burning if a public nuisance or any
575 condition adversely affecting the environment or the public
576 health is not created by the open burning and state or federal
577 ambient air quality standards are not violated.

578 (f) The use of clean debris as fill material in any area.
579 However, this paragraph does not exempt any person from
580 obtaining any other required permits, and does not affect a
581 person's responsibility to dispose of clean debris appropriately
582 if it is not to be used as fill material.

583 (g) Compost operations that produce less than 50 cubic
584 yards of compost per year when the compost produced is used on
585 the property where the compost operation is located.

586 (3) (a) All applicable provisions of ss. 403.087 and
587 403.088, relating to permits, apply to the control of solid
588 waste management facilities.

589 (b) A permit, including a general permit, issued to a solid
590 waste management facility that is designed with a leachate
591 control system meeting department requirements shall be issued
592 for a term of 20 years unless the applicant requests a shorter



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593 permit term. This paragraph applies to a qualifying solid waste
594 management facility that applies for an operating or
595 construction permit or renews an existing operating or
596 construction permit on or after October 1, 2012.

597 (c) A permit, including a general permit, but not including
598 a registration, issued to a solid waste management facility that
599 does not have a leachate control system meeting department
600 requirements shall be renewed for a term of 10 years, unless the
601 applicant requests a shorter permit term, if the following
602 conditions are met:

603 1. The applicant has conducted the regulated activity at
604 the same site for which the renewal is sought for at least 4
605 years and 6 months before the date that the permit application
606 is received by the department; and

607 2. At the time of applying for the renewal permit:

608 a. The applicant is not subject to a notice of violation,
609 consent order, or administrative order issued by the department
610 for violation of an applicable law or rule;

611 b. The department has not notified the applicant that it is
612 required to implement assessment or evaluation monitoring as a
613 result of exceedances of applicable groundwater standards or
614 criteria or, if applicable, the applicant is completing
615 corrective actions in accordance with applicable department
616 rules; and

617 c. The applicant is in compliance with the applicable
618 financial assurance requirements.

619 (d) The department may adopt rules to administer this
620 subsection. However, the department is not required to submit
621 such rules to the Environmental Regulation Commission for



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622 approval. Notwithstanding the limitations of s. 403.087(6)(a),
623 permit fee caps for solid waste management facilities shall be
624 prorated to reflect the extended permit term authorized by this
625 subsection.

626 Section 19. Section 403.7125, Florida Statutes, is amended
627 to read:

628 403.7125 Financial assurance ~~for closure.~~

629 (1) Every owner or operator of a landfill is jointly and
630 severally liable for the improper operation and closure of the
631 landfill, as provided by law. As used in this section, the term
632 "owner or operator" means any owner of record of any interest in
633 land wherein a landfill is or has been located and any person or
634 corporation that owns a majority interest in any other
635 corporation that is the owner or operator of a landfill.

636 (2) The owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated
637 by a local or state government or the Federal Government shall
638 establish a fee, or a surcharge on existing fees or other
639 appropriate revenue-producing mechanism, to ensure the
640 availability of financial resources for the proper closure of
641 the landfill. However, the disposal of solid waste by persons on
642 their own property, as described in s. 403.707(2), is exempt
643 from this section.

644 (a) The revenue-producing mechanism must produce revenue at
645 a rate sufficient to generate funds to meet state and federal
646 landfill closure requirements.

647 (b) The revenue shall be deposited in an interest-bearing
648 escrow account to be held and administered by the owner or
649 operator. The owner or operator shall file with the department
650 an annual audit of the account. The audit shall be conducted by



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651 an independent certified public accountant. Failure to collect
652 or report such revenue, except as allowed in subsection (3), is
653 a noncriminal violation punishable by a fine of not more than
654 \$5,000 for each offense. The owner or operator may make
655 expenditures from the account and its accumulated interest only
656 for the purpose of landfill closure and, if such expenditures do
657 not deplete the fund to the detriment of eventual closure, for
658 planning and construction of resource recovery or landfill
659 facilities. Any moneys remaining in the account after paying for
660 proper and complete closure, as determined by the department,
661 shall, if the owner or operator does not operate a landfill, be
662 deposited by the owner or operator into the general fund or the
663 appropriate solid waste fund of the local government of
664 jurisdiction.

665 (c) The revenue generated under this subsection and any
666 accumulated interest thereon may be applied to the payment of,
667 or pledged as security for, the payment of revenue bonds issued
668 in whole or in part for the purpose of complying with state and
669 federal landfill closure requirements. Such application or
670 pledge may be made directly in the proceedings authorizing such
671 bonds or in an agreement with an insurer of bonds to assure such
672 insurer of additional security therefor.

673 (d) The provisions of s. 212.055 which relate to raising of
674 revenues for landfill closure or long-term maintenance do not
675 relieve a landfill owner or operator from the obligations of
676 this section.

677 (e) The owner or operator of any landfill that had
678 established an escrow account in accordance with this section
679 and the conditions of its permit prior to January 1, 2007, may



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680 continue to use that escrow account to provide financial
681 assurance for closure of that landfill, even if that landfill is
682 not owned or operated by a local or state government or the
683 Federal Government.

684 (3) An owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by
685 a local or state government or by the Federal Government may
686 provide financial assurance to the department in lieu of the
687 requirements of subsection (2). An owner or operator of any
688 other landfill, or any other solid waste management facility
689 designated by department rule, shall provide financial assurance
690 to the department for the closure of the facility. Such
691 financial assurance may include surety bonds, certificates of
692 deposit, securities, letters of credit, or other documents
693 showing that the owner or operator has sufficient financial
694 resources to cover, at a minimum, the costs of complying with
695 applicable closure requirements. The owner or operator shall
696 estimate such costs to the satisfaction of the department.

697 (4) This section does not repeal, limit, or abrogate any
698 other law authorizing local governments to fix, levy, or charge
699 rates, fees, or charges for the purpose of complying with state
700 and federal landfill closure requirements.

701 (5) The department shall by rule require that the owner or
702 operator of a solid waste management facility that receives
703 waste after October 9, 1993, and that is required by department
704 rule to undertake corrective actions for violations of water
705 quality standards provide financial assurance for the cost of
706 completing such corrective actions. The same financial assurance
707 mechanisms that are available for closure costs shall be
708 available for costs associated with undertaking corrective



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709 actions.

710 (6)~~(5)~~ The department shall adopt rules to implement this
711 section.

712 Section 20. Subsection (12) is added to section 403.814,
713 Florida Statutes, to read:

714 403.814 General permits; delegation.—

715 (12) A general permit is granted for the construction,
716 alteration, and maintenance of a storm water management system
717 serving a total project area of up to 10 acres. When the storm
718 water management system is designed, operated and maintained in
719 accordance with applicable rules adopted pursuant to part IV of
720 Chapter 373, there shall be a rebuttable presumption that the
721 discharge for such systems will comply with state water quality
722 standards. The construction of such a system may proceed without
723 any further agency action by the department or water management
724 district if within 30 days of commencement of construction, an
725 electronic self-certification is submitted to the department or
726 water management district that certifies the proposed system was
727 designed by a Florida registered professional to meet all of the
728 requirements listed in 12(a)-(f) below:

729 (a) The total project involves less than 10 acres and less
730 than 2 acres of impervious surface;

731 (b) No activities will impact wetlands or other surface
732 waters;

733 (c) No activities are conducted in, on, or over wetlands or
734 other surface waters;

735 (d) Drainage facilities will not include pipes having
736 diameters greater than 24 inches, or the hydraulic equivalent,
737 and will not use pumps in any manner;



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738 (e) The project is not part of a larger common plan,
739 development, or sale; and

740 (f) The project does not:

741 1. Cause adverse water quantity or flooding impacts to
742 receiving water and adjacent lands;

743 2. Cause adverse impacts to existing surface water storage
744 and conveyance capabilities;

745 3. Cause a violation of state water quality standards; and

746 4. Cause an adverse impact to the maintenance of surface or
747 ground water levels or surface water flows established pursuant
748 to s. 373.042 or a work of the district established pursuant to
749 s. 373.086.

750 Section 21. Subsection (6) of section 403.853, Florida
751 Statutes, is amended to read:

752 403.853 Drinking water standards.—

753 (6) Upon the request of the owner or operator of a
754 transient noncommunity water system using groundwater as a
755 source of supply and serving religious institutions or
756 businesses, other than restaurants or other public food service
757 establishments or religious institutions with school or day care
758 services, and using groundwater as a source of supply, the
759 department, or a local county health department designated by
760 the department, shall perform a sanitary survey of the facility.
761 Upon receipt of satisfactory survey results according to
762 department criteria, the department shall reduce the
763 requirements of such owner or operator from monitoring and
764 reporting on a quarterly basis to performing these functions on
765 an annual basis. Any revised monitoring and reporting schedule
766 approved by the department under this subsection shall apply



767 until such time as a violation of applicable state or federal
768 primary drinking water standards is determined by the system
769 owner or operator, by the department, or by an agency designated
770 by the department, after a random or routine sanitary survey.
771 Certified operators are not required for transient noncommunity
772 water systems of the type and size covered by this subsection.
773 Any reports required of such system shall be limited to the
774 minimum as required by federal law. When not contrary to the
775 provisions of federal law, the department may, upon request and
776 by rule, waive additional provisions of state drinking water
777 regulations for such systems.

778 Section 22. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and subsections
779 (4), (5), (10), (11), (14), (15), and (18) of section 403.973,
780 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

781 403.973 Expedited permitting; amendments to comprehensive
782 plans.—

783 (3)(a) The secretary shall direct the creation of regional
784 permit action teams for the purpose of expediting review of
785 permit applications and local comprehensive plan amendments
786 submitted by:

787 1. Businesses creating at least 50 jobs or a commercial or
788 industrial development project that will be occupied by
789 businesses that would individually or collectively create at
790 least 50 jobs; or

791 2. Businesses creating at least 25 jobs if the project is
792 located in an enterprise zone, or in a county having a
793 population of fewer than 75,000 or in a county having a
794 population of fewer than 125,000 which is contiguous to a county
795 having a population of fewer than 75,000, as determined by the



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796 most recent decennial census, residing in incorporated and
797 unincorporated areas of the county.

798 (4) The regional teams shall be established through the
799 execution of a project-specific memoranda of agreement developed
800 and executed by the applicant and the secretary, with input
801 solicited from ~~the Department of Economic Opportunity~~ and the
802 respective heads of the Department of Transportation and its
803 district offices, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
804 Services, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
805 appropriate regional planning councils, appropriate water
806 management districts, and voluntarily participating
807 municipalities and counties. The memoranda of agreement should
808 also accommodate participation in this expedited process by
809 other local governments and federal agencies as circumstances
810 warrant.

811 (5) In order to facilitate local government's option to
812 participate in this expedited review process, the secretary
813 shall, in cooperation with local governments and participating
814 state agencies, create a standard form memorandum of agreement.
815 The standard form of the memorandum of agreement shall be used
816 only if the local government participates in the expedited
817 review process. In the absence of local government
818 participation, only the project-specific memorandum of agreement
819 executed pursuant to subsection (4) applies. A local government
820 shall hold a duly noticed public workshop to review and explain
821 to the public the expedited permitting process and the terms and
822 conditions of the standard form memorandum of agreement.

823 (10) The memoranda of agreement may provide for the waiver
824 or modification of procedural rules prescribing forms, fees,



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825 procedures, or time limits for the review or processing of
826 permit applications under the jurisdiction of those agencies
827 that are members of the regional permit action team ~~party to the~~
828 ~~memoranda of agreement~~. Notwithstanding any other provision of
829 law to the contrary, a memorandum of agreement must to the
830 extent feasible provide for proceedings and hearings otherwise
831 held separately ~~by the parties to the memorandum of agreement~~ to
832 be combined into one proceeding or held jointly and at one
833 location. Such waivers or modifications are not authorized ~~shall~~
834 ~~not be available~~ for permit applications governed by federally
835 delegated or approved permitting programs, the requirements of
836 which would prohibit, or be inconsistent with, such a waiver or
837 modification.

838 (11) The ~~standard form for~~ memoranda of agreement shall
839 include guidelines to be used in working with state, regional,
840 and local permitting authorities. Guidelines may include, but
841 are not limited to, the following:

842 (a) A central contact point for filing permit applications
843 and local comprehensive plan amendments and for obtaining
844 information on permit and local comprehensive plan amendment
845 requirements. ~~†~~

846 (b) Identification of the individual or individuals within
847 each respective agency who will be responsible for processing
848 the expedited permit application or local comprehensive plan
849 amendment for that agency. ~~†~~

850 (c) A mandatory preapplication review process to reduce
851 permitting conflicts by providing guidance to applicants
852 regarding the permits needed from each agency and governmental
853 entity, site planning and development, site suitability and



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854 limitations, facility design, and steps the applicant can take
855 to ensure expeditious permit application and local comprehensive
856 plan amendment review. As a part of this process, the first
857 interagency meeting to discuss a project shall be held within 14
858 days after the secretary's determination that the project is
859 eligible for expedited review. Subsequent interagency meetings
860 may be scheduled to accommodate the needs of participating local
861 governments that are unable to meet public notice requirements
862 for executing a memorandum of agreement within this timeframe.
863 This accommodation may not exceed 45 days from the secretary's
864 determination that the project is eligible for expedited
865 review.~~†~~

866 (d) The preparation of a single coordinated project
867 description form and checklist and an agreement by state and
868 regional agencies to reduce the burden on an applicant to
869 provide duplicate information to multiple agencies.~~†~~

870 (e) Establishment of a process for the adoption and review
871 of any comprehensive plan amendment needed by any certified
872 project within 90 days after the submission of an application
873 for a comprehensive plan amendment. However, the memorandum of
874 agreement may not prevent affected persons as defined in s.
875 163.3184 from appealing or participating in this expedited plan
876 amendment process and any review or appeals of decisions made
877 under this paragraph.~~†~~~~and~~

878 (f) Additional incentives for an applicant who proposes a
879 project that provides a net ecosystem benefit.

880 (14) (a) Challenges to state agency action in the expedited
881 permitting process for projects processed under this section are
882 subject to the summary hearing provisions of s. 120.574, except



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883 that the administrative law judge's decision, as provided in s.
884 120.574(2)(f), shall be in the form of a recommended order and
885 do not constitute the final action of the state agency. In those
886 proceedings where the action of only one agency of the state
887 other than the Department of Environmental Protection is
888 challenged, the agency of the state shall issue the final order
889 within 45 working days after receipt of the administrative law
890 judge's recommended order, and the recommended order shall
891 inform the parties of their right to file exceptions or
892 responses to the recommended order in accordance with the
893 uniform rules of procedure pursuant to s. 120.54. In those
894 proceedings where the actions of more than one agency of the
895 state are challenged, the Governor shall issue the final order
896 within 45 working days after receipt of the administrative law
897 judge's recommended order, and the recommended order shall
898 inform the parties of their right to file exceptions or
899 responses to the recommended order in accordance with the
900 uniform rules of procedure pursuant to s. 120.54. For This
901 ~~paragraph does not apply to~~ the issuance of department licenses
902 required under any federally delegated or approved permit
903 program. In such instances, the department, and not the
904 Governor, shall enter the final order. The participating
905 agencies of the state may opt at the preliminary hearing
906 conference to allow the administrative law judge's decision to
907 constitute the final agency action.

908 (b) Projects identified in paragraph (3)(f) or challenges
909 to state agency action in the expedited permitting process for
910 establishment of a state-of-the-art biomedical research
911 institution and campus in this state by the grantee under s.



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912 288.955 are subject to the same requirements as challenges
913 brought under paragraph (a), except that, notwithstanding s.
914 120.574, summary proceedings must be conducted within 30 days
915 after a party files the motion for summary hearing, regardless
916 of whether the parties agree to the summary proceeding.

917 (15) The Department of Economic Opportunity, working with
918 the agencies providing cooperative assistance and input
919 regarding the memoranda of agreement, shall review sites
920 proposed for the location of facilities that the Department of
921 Economic Opportunity has certified to be eligible for the
922 Innovation Incentive Program under s. 288.1089. Within 20 days
923 after the request for the review by the Department of Economic
924 Opportunity, the agencies shall provide to the Department of
925 Economic Opportunity a statement as to each site's necessary
926 permits under local, state, and federal law and an
927 identification of significant permitting issues, which if
928 unresolved, may result in the denial of an agency permit or
929 approval or any significant delay caused by the permitting
930 process.

931 (18) The Department of Economic Opportunity, working with
932 the Rural Economic Development Initiative ~~and the agencies~~
933 ~~participating in the memoranda of agreement~~, shall provide
934 technical assistance in preparing permit applications and local
935 comprehensive plan amendments for counties having a population
936 of fewer than 75,000 residents, or counties having fewer than
937 125,000 residents which are contiguous to counties having fewer
938 than 75,000 residents. Additional assistance may include, but
939 not be limited to, guidance in land development regulations and
940 permitting processes, working cooperatively with state,



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941 regional, and local entities to identify areas within these
942 counties which may be suitable or adaptable for preclearance
943 review of specified types of land uses and other activities
944 requiring permits.

945 Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 526.203, Florida
946 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that
947 section, to read:

948 526.203 Renewable fuel standard.—

949 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this act:

950 (a) "Blender," "importer," "terminal supplier," and
951 "wholesaler" are defined as provided in s. 206.01.

952 (b) "Blended gasoline" means a mixture of 90 to 91 percent
953 gasoline and 9 to 10 percent fuel ethanol or other alternative
954 fuel, by volume, that meets the specifications as adopted by the
955 department. The fuel ethanol or other alternative fuel portion
956 may be derived from any agricultural source.

957 (c) "Fuel ethanol" means an anhydrous denatured alcohol
958 produced by the conversion of carbohydrates that meets the
959 specifications as adopted by the department.

960 (d) "Alternative fuel" means a fuel produced from biomass
961 that is used to replace or reduce the quantity of fossil fuel
962 present in a petroleum fuel that meets the specifications as
963 adopted by the department. "Biomass" means biomass as defined in
964 s. 366.91 and "alternative fuel" means alternative fuel as
965 defined in s. 525.01(1)(c) and that is suitable for blending
966 with gasoline.

967 (e) ~~(d)~~ "Unblended gasoline" means gasoline that has not
968 been blended with fuel ethanol and that meets the specifications
969 as adopted by the department.



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970 (5) SALE OF UNBLENDED GASOLINE.—This section does not
971 prohibit the sale of unblended gasoline for the uses exempted
972 under subsection (3).

973 Section 24. The holder of a valid permit or other
974 authorization is not required to make a payment to the
975 authorizing agency for use of an extension granted under section
976 73 or section 79 of chapter 2011-139, Laws of Florida. This
977 section applies retroactively and is effective as of June 2,
978 2011.

979 Section 25. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

980

981

982 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

983 And the title is amended as follows:

984 Delete everything before the enacting clause
985 and insert:

986 A bill to be entitled

987 An act relating to environmental regulation; amending s.
988 125.022, F.S.; prohibiting a county from requiring an applicant
989 to obtain a permit or approval from any state or federal agency
990 as a condition of processing a development permit under certain
991 conditions; authorizing a county to attach certain disclaimers
992 to the issuance of a development permit; amending s. 161.041,
993 F.S.; providing conditions under which the department is
994 authorized to issue such permits in advance of the issuance of
995 incidental take authorizations as provided under the Endangered
996 Species Act; amending s. 166.033, F.S.; prohibiting a
997 municipality from requiring an applicant to obtain a permit or
998 approval from any state or federal agency as a condition of



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999 processing a development permit under certain conditions;
1000 authorizing a municipality to attach certain disclaimers to the
1001 issuance of a development permit; amending s. 218.075, F.S.;
1002 providing for the reduction or waiver of permit processing fees
1003 relating to projects that serve a public purpose for certain
1004 entities created by special act, local ordinance, or interlocal
1005 agreement; amending s. 258.397, F.S.; providing an exemption
1006 from a showing of extreme hardship relating to the sale,
1007 transfer, or lease of sovereignty submerged lands in the
1008 Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve for certain municipal applicants;
1009 amending s. 373.026, F.S.; requiring the department to expand
1010 its use of Internet-based self-certification services for
1011 exemptions and permits issued by the department and water
1012 management districts; amending s. 373.326, F.S.; exempting
1013 certain underground injection control wells from permitting
1014 requirements under part III of chapter 373, F.S., relating to
1015 regulation of wells; providing a requirement for the
1016 construction of such wells; amending s. 373.4141, F.S.; reducing
1017 the time within which a permit must be approved, denied, or
1018 subject to notice of proposed agency action; prohibiting a state
1019 agency or an agency of the state from requiring additional
1020 permits or approval from a local, state, or federal agency
1021 without explicit authority; amending s. 373.4144, F.S.;
1022 providing legislative intent with respect to the coordination of
1023 regulatory duties among specified state and federal agencies;
1024 encouraging expanded use of the state programmatic general
1025 permit or regional general permits; providing for a voluntary
1026 state programmatic general permit for certain dredge and fill
1027 activities; amending s. 376.3071, F.S.; increasing the priority



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1028 ranking score for participation in the low-scored site
1029 initiative; exempting program deductibles, copayments, and
1030 certain assessment report requirements from expenditures under
1031 the low-scored site initiative; amending s. 376.30715, F.S.;
1032 providing that the transfer of a contaminated site from an owner
1033 to a child of the owner or corporate entity does not disqualify
1034 the site from the innocent victim petroleum storage system
1035 restoration financial assistance program; authorizing certain
1036 applicants to reapply for financial assistance; amending s.
1037 380.0657, F.S.; authorizing expedited permitting for certain
1038 inland multimodal facilities that individually or collectively
1039 will create a minimum number of jobs; amending s. 403.061, F.S.;
1040 authorizing zones of discharges to groundwater for specified
1041 installations; providing for modification of such zones of
1042 discharge; providing that exceedance of certain groundwater
1043 standards does not create liability for site cleanup; providing
1044 that exceedance of soil cleanup target levels is not a basis for
1045 enforcement or cleanup; amending s. 403.087, F.S.; revising
1046 conditions under which the department is authorized to revoke
1047 permits for sources of air and water pollution; amending s.
1048 403.1838, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "financially
1049 disadvantaged small community" for the purposes of the Small
1050 Community Sewer Construction Assistance Act; amending s.
1051 403.7045, F.S.; providing conditions under which sludge from an
1052 industrial waste treatment works is not solid waste; amending s.
1053 403.706, F.S.; reducing the amount of recycled materials certain
1054 counties are required to apply toward state recycling goals;
1055 providing that certain renewable energy byproducts count toward
1056 state recycling goals; amending s. 403.707, F.S.; providing for



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1057 waste-to-energy facilities to maximize acceptance and processing
1058 of nonhazardous solid and liquid waste; exempting the disposal
1059 of solid waste monitored by certain groundwater monitoring plans
1060 from specific authorization; specifying a permit term for solid
1061 waste management facilities designed with leachate control
1062 systems that meet department requirements; requiring permit fees
1063 to be adjusted; providing applicability; specifying a permit
1064 term for solid waste management facilities that do not have
1065 leachate control systems meeting department requirements under
1066 certain conditions; authorizing the department to adopt rules;
1067 providing that the department is not required to submit the
1068 rules to the Environmental Regulation Commission for approval;
1069 requiring permit fee caps to be prorated; amending s. 403.7125,
1070 F.S.; requiring the department to require by rule that owners or
1071 operators of solid waste management facilities receiving waste
1072 after October 9, 1993, provide financial assurance for the cost
1073 of completing certain corrective actions; amending s. 403.814,
1074 F.S.; providing for issuance of general permits for the
1075 construction, alteration, and maintenance of certain surface
1076 water management systems without the action of the department or
1077 a water management district; specifying conditions for the
1078 general permits; amending s. 403.853, F.S.; providing for the
1079 department, or a local county health department designated by
1080 the department, to perform sanitary surveys for certain
1081 transient noncommunity water systems; amending s. 403.973, F.S.;
1082 authorizing expedited permitting for certain commercial or
1083 industrial development projects that individually or
1084 collectively will create a minimum number of jobs; providing for
1085 a project-specific memorandum of agreement to apply to a project



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1086 subject to expedited permitting; clarifying the authority of the
1087 department to enter final orders for the issuance of certain
1088 licenses; revising criteria for the review of certain sites;
1089 amending s. 526.203, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms
1090 "blended gasoline" and "unblended gasoline"; defining the term
1091 "alternative fuel"; authorizing the sale of unblended fuels for
1092 certain uses; providing that holders of valid permits or other
1093 authorizations are not required to make payments to authorizing
1094 agencies for use of certain extensions granted under chapter
1095 2011-139, Laws of Florida; providing an effective date.
1096



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (737914)

Delete line 745

and insert:

3. Cause a violation of state water quality standards; or

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Bennett

578-01887-12

2012716c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to environmental regulation; amending
3 s. 125.022, F.S.; prohibiting a county from requiring
4 an applicant to obtain a permit or approval from any
5 state or federal agency as a condition of processing a
6 development permit under certain conditions;
7 authorizing a county to attach certain disclaimers to
8 the issuance of a development permit; amending s.
9 166.033, F.S.; prohibiting a municipality from
10 requiring an applicant to obtain a permit or approval
11 from any state or federal agency as a condition of
12 processing a development permit under certain
13 conditions; authorizing a municipality to attach
14 certain disclaimers to the issuance of a development
15 permit; amending s. 218.075, F.S.; providing for the
16 reduction or waiver of permit processing fees relating
17 to projects that serve a public purpose for certain
18 entities created by special act, local ordinance, or
19 interlocal agreement; amending s. 258.397, F.S.;
20 providing an exemption from a showing of extreme
21 hardship relating to the sale, transfer, or lease of
22 sovereignty submerged lands in the Biscayne Bay
23 Aquatic Preserve for certain municipal applicants;
24 providing for additional dredging and filling
25 activities in the preserve; amending s. 339.63, F.S.;
26 providing exceptions to criteria required for system
27 facilities designated under the Strategic Intermodal
28 System; amending s. 373.026, F.S.; requiring the
29 Department of Environmental Protection to expand its

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30 use of Internet-based self-certification services for
31 exemptions and permits issued by the department and
32 water management districts; amending s. 373.306, F.S.;
33 exempting underground injection control wells from
34 certain rules; amending s. 373.4141, F.S.; reducing
35 the time within which a permit must be approved,
36 denied, or subject to notice of proposed agency
37 action; prohibiting a state agency or an agency of the
38 state from requiring additional permits or approval
39 from a local, state, or federal agency without
40 explicit authority; amending s. 373.4144, F.S.;
41 providing legislative intent with respect to the
42 coordination of regulatory duties among specified
43 state and federal agencies; encouraging expanded use
44 of the state programmatic general permit or regional
45 general permits; providing for a voluntary state
46 programmatic general permit for certain dredge and
47 fill activities; amending s. 373.441, F.S.; requiring
48 that certain counties or municipalities apply by a
49 specified date to the department or water management
50 district for authority to require certain permits;
51 providing that following such delegation, the
52 department or district may not regulate activities
53 that are subject to the delegation; clarifying the
54 authority of local governments to adopt pollution
55 control programs under certain conditions; providing
56 applicability with respect to solid mineral mining;
57 amending s. 376.3071, F.S.; exempting program
58 deductibles, copayments, and certain assessment report

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59 requirements from expenditures under the low-scored
60 site initiative; amending s. 376.30715, F.S.;

61 providing that the transfer of a contaminated site
62 from an owner to a child of the owner or corporate
63 entity does not disqualify the site from the innocent
64 victim petroleum storage system restoration financial
65 assistance program; authorizing certain applicants to
66 reapply for financial assistance; amending s.
67 380.0657, F.S.; authorizing expedited permitting for
68 certain inland multimodal facilities; amending s.
69 403.061, F.S.; requiring the department to establish
70 reasonable zones of mixing for discharges into
71 specified waters; providing that certain groundwater
72 standards that are exceeded do not create liability
73 for site cleanup; providing that certain soil cleanup
74 target levels that are exceeded are not a basis for
75 enforcement or cleanup; amending s. 403.087, F.S.;

76 revising conditions under which the department is
77 authorized to revoke permits for sources of air or
78 water pollution; amending s. 403.1838, F.S.; revising
79 the definition of the term "financially disadvantaged
80 small community" for purposes of the Small Community
81 Sewer Construction Assistance Act; amending s.
82 403.7045, F.S.; providing conditions under which
83 sludge from an industrial waste treatment works is not
84 solid waste; amending s. 403.707, F.S.; exempting the
85 disposal of solid waste monitored by certain
86 groundwater monitoring plans from specific
87 authorization; extending the duration of all permits

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88 issued to solid waste management facilities that meet
89 specified criteria; providing an exception; providing
90 for prorated permit fees; providing applicability;
91 specifying a permit term for a solid waste management
92 facility that does not have a leachate control system
93 meeting the requirements of the department under
94 certain conditions; authorizing the department to
95 adopt rules; providing that the department is not
96 required to submit the rules to the Environmental
97 Regulation Commission for approval; requiring that
98 permit fee caps for solid waste management facilities
99 be prorated to reflect the extended permit term;
100 amending s. 403.709, F.S.; creating a solid waste
101 landfill closure account within the Solid Waste
102 Management Trust Fund to fund the closing and long-
103 term care of solid waste facilities under certain
104 circumstances; requiring that the department deposit
105 funds that are reimbursed into the solid waste
106 landfill closure account; amending s. 403.7125, F.S.;
107 requiring that the department require by rule that the
108 owner or operator of a solid waste management facility
109 receiving waste on or after a specified date provide
110 financial assurance for the cost of completing
111 corrective action for violations of water quality
112 standards; amending s. 403.814, F.S.; providing for
113 issuance of general permits for the construction,
114 alteration, and maintenance of certain surface water
115 management systems under certain circumstances;
116 specifying conditions for the construction of the

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117 system without any action by the department or water
118 management district; amending s. 403.853, F.S.;

119 providing for the department, or a local county health
120 department designated by the department, to perform
121 sanitary surveys for certain transient noncommunity
122 water systems; amending s. 403.973, F.S.; authorizing
123 expedited permitting for certain commercial or
124 industrial development projects that individually or
125 collectively will create a minimum number of jobs;
126 providing for a project-specific memorandum of
127 agreement to apply to a project subject to expedited
128 permitting; clarifying the authority of the department
129 to enter final orders for the issuance of certain
130 licenses; revising criteria for the review of certain
131 sites; amending s. 526.203, F.S.; revising the
132 definition of the term "blended gasoline"; defining
133 the term "renewable fuel"; authorizing the sale of
134 unblended fuels for certain uses; providing an
135 effective date.

136

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

138

139 Section 1. Section 125.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to
140 read:

141 125.022 Development permits.—If ~~When~~ a county denies an
142 application for a development permit, the county shall give
143 written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a
144 citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule,
145 statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit.

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146 As used in this section, the term "development permit" has the
147 same meaning as in s. 163.3164. A county may not require as a
148 condition of processing a development permit that an applicant
149 obtain a permit or approval from a state or federal agency
150 unless that agency has issued a notice of intent to deny the
151 federal or state permit before the county action on the local
152 development permit. The issuance of a development permit by a
153 county does not create a right on the part of the applicant to
154 obtain a permit from a state or federal agency and does not
155 create a liability on the part of the county for issuance of the
156 permit if the applicant fails to fulfill its legal obligations
157 to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill the obligations imposed
158 by a state or federal agency. A county may attach such a
159 disclaimer to the issuance of a development permit and may
160 include a permit condition that all other applicable state or
161 federal permits be obtained before commencement of the
162 development. This section does not prohibit a county from
163 providing information to an applicant regarding what other state
164 or federal permits may apply.

165 Section 2. Section 166.033, Florida Statutes, is amended to
166 read:

167 166.033 Development permits.—~~If~~ ~~When~~ a municipality denies
168 an application for a development permit, the municipality shall
169 give written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a
170 citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule,
171 statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit.
172 As used in this section, the term "development permit" has the
173 same meaning as in s. 163.3164. A municipality may not require
174 as a condition of processing a development permit that an

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175 applicant obtain a permit or approval from a state or federal
176 agency unless that agency has issued a notice of intent to deny
177 the federal or state permit before the municipal action on the
178 local development permit. The issuance of a development permit
179 by a municipality does not create a right on the part of an
180 applicant to obtain a permit from a state or federal agency and
181 does not create any liability on the part of the municipality
182 for issuance of the permit if the applicant fails to fulfill its
183 legal obligations to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill the
184 obligations imposed by a state or federal agency. A municipality
185 may attach such a disclaimer to the issuance of a development
186 permit and may include a permit condition that all other
187 applicable state or federal permits be obtained before
188 commencement of the development. This section does not prohibit
189 a municipality from providing information to an applicant
190 regarding what other state or federal permits may apply.

191 Section 3. Section 218.075, Florida Statutes, is amended to
192 read:

193 218.075 Reduction or waiver of permit processing fees.—
194 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of
195 Environmental Protection and the water management districts
196 shall reduce or waive permit processing fees for a county that
197 has ~~counties with~~ a population of 50,000 or fewer ~~less~~ on April
198 1, 1994, until such county exceeds ~~counties exceed~~ a population
199 of 75,000; for a municipality that has ~~and municipalities with~~ a
200 population of 25,000 or fewer; for an entity created by special
201 act, local ordinance, or interlocal agreement of such county or
202 municipality; ~~less~~, or for a ~~any~~ county or municipality not
203 included within a metropolitan statistical area. Fee reductions

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204 or waivers shall be approved on the basis of fiscal hardship or
205 environmental need for a particular project or activity. The
206 governing body must certify that the cost of the permit
207 processing fee is a fiscal hardship due to one of the following
208 factors:

209 (1) Per capita taxable value is less than the statewide
210 average for the current fiscal year;

211 (2) Percentage of assessed property value that is exempt
212 from ad valorem taxation is higher than the statewide average
213 for the current fiscal year;

214 (3) Any condition specified in s. 218.503(1) which results
215 in the county or municipality being in a state of financial
216 emergency;

217 (4) Ad valorem operating millage rate for the current
218 fiscal year is greater than 8 mills; or

219 (5) A financial condition that is documented in annual
220 financial statements at the end of the current fiscal year and
221 indicates an inability to pay the permit processing fee during
222 that fiscal year.

223

224 The permit applicant must be the governing body of a county or
225 municipality, ~~or~~ a third party under contract with a county or
226 municipality, or an entity created by special act, local
227 ordinance, or interlocal agreement, and the project for which
228 the fee reduction or waiver is sought must serve a public
229 purpose. If a permit processing fee is reduced, the total fee
230 may ~~shall~~ not exceed \$100.

231 Section 4. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of
232 section 258.397, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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233 258.397 Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve.—

234 (3) AUTHORITY OF TRUSTEES.—The Board of Trustees of the
235 Internal Improvement Trust Fund is authorized and directed to
236 maintain the aquatic preserve hereby created pursuant and
237 subject to the following provisions:

238 (a) A ~~No further~~ sale, transfer, or lease of sovereignty
239 submerged lands in the preserve may not ~~shall~~ be approved or
240 consummated by the board of trustees, except upon a showing of
241 extreme hardship on the part of the applicant and a
242 determination by the board of trustees that such sale, transfer,
243 or lease is in the public interest. A municipal applicant
244 proposing a project under paragraph (b) is exempt from showing
245 extreme hardship.

246 (b) A ~~No further~~ dredging or filling of submerged lands of
247 the preserve may not ~~shall~~ be approved or tolerated by the board
248 of trustees except:

249 1. Such minimum dredging and spoiling as may be authorized
250 for public navigation projects or for such minimum dredging and
251 spoiling as may be constituted as a public necessity or for
252 preservation of the bay according to the expressed intent of
253 this section.

254 2. Such other alteration of physical conditions, including
255 the placement of riprap, as may be necessary to enhance the
256 quality and utility of the preserve.

257 3. Such minimum dredging and filling as may be authorized
258 for the creation and maintenance of marinas, piers, and docks
259 and their attendant navigation channels and access roads. Such
260 projects may ~~only~~ be authorized only upon a specific finding by
261 the board of trustees that there is assurance that the project

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262 will be constructed and operated in a manner that will not
263 adversely affect the water quality and utility of the preserve.
264 This subparagraph does ~~shall~~ not authorize the connection of
265 upland canals to the waters of the preserve.

266 4. Such dredging as ~~is~~ necessary for the purpose of
267 eliminating conditions hazardous to the public health or for the
268 purpose of eliminating stagnant waters, islands, and spoil
269 banks, the dredging of which would enhance the aesthetic and
270 environmental quality and utility of the preserve and be clearly
271 in the public interest as determined by the board of trustees.

272 5. Such dredging and filling as necessary for the creation
273 of public waterfront promenades.

274
275 Any dredging or filling under this subsection or improvements
276 under subsection (5) may ~~shall~~ be approved only after public
277 notice as provided by s. 253.115.

278 Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 339.63, Florida
279 Statutes, is amended, and subsections (5) and (6) are added to
280 that section, to read:

281 339.63 System facilities designated; additions and
282 deletions.—

283 (4) After the initial designation of the Strategic
284 Intermodal System under subsection (1), the department shall, in
285 coordination with the metropolitan planning organizations, local
286 governments, regional planning councils, transportation
287 providers, and affected public agencies, add facilities to or
288 delete facilities from the Strategic Intermodal System described
289 in paragraph (2)(a) based upon criteria adopted by the
290 department with the exceptions provided in subsections (5) and

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291 (6).

292 (5) ~~However,~~ An airport that is designated as a reliever
293 airport to a Strategic Intermodal System airport which has at
294 least 75,000 itinerant operations per year, has a runway length
295 of at least 5,500 linear feet, is capable of handling aircraft
296 weighing at least 60,000 pounds with a dual wheel configuration
297 which is served by at least one precision instrument approach,
298 and serves a cluster of aviation-dependent industries, shall be
299 designated as part of the Strategic Intermodal System by the
300 Secretary of Transportation upon the request of a reliever
301 airport meeting this criteria.

302 (6) A planned facility that is projected to create at least
303 50 full-time jobs and is designated in the local comprehensive
304 plan as an intermodal logistics center or inland logistics
305 center, or the local equivalent, and meets the following
306 criteria shall be designated as part of the Strategic Intermodal
307 System by the Secretary of Transportation upon the request of a
308 planned intermodal logistics center facility. The planned
309 facility must:

310 (a) Serve the purpose of receiving or sending cargo for
311 distribution and providing cargo storage, consolidation, and
312 repackaging and transfer of goods, and may, if developed as
313 proposed, include other intermodal terminals, related
314 transportation facility, warehousing and distribution, and
315 associated office space, light industrial, manufacturing, and
316 assembly uses;

317 (b) Be proximate to one or more Strategic Intermodal
318 System-designated highway facility for the purpose of
319 facilitating regional freight traffic movements within the

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320 state;

321 (c) Be located within 30 miles to an existing Strategic
322 Intermodal System- or Emerging Strategic Intermodal System-
323 designated rail line;

324 (d) Be located within 100 miles of a Strategic Intermodal
325 System-designated seaport, for the purpose of providing
326 additional relief for expansion of cargo storage and seaport
327 movement capacity, and have a collaborative agreement, letter of
328 interest, or memorandum of understanding with the seaport; and

329 (e) Be consistent with market feasibility studies for
330 location and size of a intermodal logistics center or an inland
331 port facility as published by the Department of Transportation
332 or other sources.

333
334 If a planned facility is designated as an intermodal logistics
335 center or inland logistics center, or the local equivalent, a
336 local government must adopt a waiver of transportation
337 concurrency or a limited exemption that allows up to 150 percent
338 increase in the adopted level of service capacity standard for
339 the project's impact to roadway facilities on the Strategic
340 Intermodal System.

341 Section 6. Subsection (10) is added to section 373.026,
342 Florida Statutes, to read:

343 373.026 General powers and duties of the department.—The
344 department, or its successor agency, shall be responsible for
345 the administration of this chapter at the state level. However,
346 it is the policy of the state that, to the greatest extent
347 possible, the department may enter into interagency or
348 interlocal agreements with any other state agency, any water

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349 management district, or any local government conducting programs
350 related to or materially affecting the water resources of the
351 state. All such agreements shall be subject to the provisions of
352 s. 373.046. In addition to its other powers and duties, the
353 department shall, to the greatest extent possible:

354 (10) Expand the use of Internet-based self-certification
355 services for appropriate exemptions and general permits issued
356 by the department and the water management districts, if the
357 expansion is economically feasible. In addition to expanding the
358 use of Internet-based, self-certification services for
359 appropriate exemptions and general permits, the department and
360 the water management districts shall identify and develop
361 general permits for appropriate activities currently requiring
362 individual review which could be expedited through the use of
363 applicable professional certification.

364 Section 7. Section 373.306, Florida Statutes, is amended to
365 read:

366 373.306 Scope.—~~A No~~ person may not shall construct, repair,
367 abandon, or cause to be constructed, repaired, or abandoned, any
368 water well contrary to the provisions of this part and
369 applicable rules ~~and regulations~~. This part does shall not apply
370 to equipment used temporarily for dewatering purposes or to the
371 process used in dewatering or to wells that have been authorized
372 under the state's underground injection control program pursuant
373 to department rules.

374 Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 373.4141, Florida
375 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that
376 section, to read:

377 373.4141 Permits; processing.—

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378 (2) A permit shall be approved, ~~or~~ subject to a
379 notice of proposed agency action within 60 ~~90~~ days after receipt
380 of the original application, the last item of timely requested
381 additional material, or the applicant's written request to begin
382 processing the permit application.

383 (4) A state agency or an agency of the state may not
384 require as a condition of approval for a permit or as an item to
385 complete a pending permit application that an applicant obtain a
386 permit or approval from any other local, state, or federal
387 agency without explicit statutory authority to require such
388 permit or approval.

389 Section 9. Section 373.4144, Florida Statutes, is amended
390 to read:

391 373.4144 Federal environmental permitting.-

392 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to facilitate the
393 coordination of a more efficient process for implementing
394 regulatory duties and functions between the Department of
395 Environmental Protection, the water management districts, the
396 United States Army Corps of Engineers, the United States Fish
397 and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries Service, the
398 United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and
399 Wildlife Conservation Commission, and other relevant federal and
400 state agencies.

401 (2) The Department of Environmental Protection may obtain
402 issuance by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, pursuant
403 to state and federal law and as set forth in this section, of an
404 expanded state programmatic general permit, or a series of
405 regional general permits, for categories of activities in waters
406 of the United States governed by the Clean Water Act and in

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407 navigable waters under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 which
408 are similar in nature, which will cause only minimal adverse
409 environmental effects when performed separately, and which will
410 have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the environment.

411 (3) The Department of Environmental Protection may use a
412 state general permit or a regional general permit to eliminate
413 overlapping federal regulations and state rules that protect the
414 same resource and to avoid duplication of permitting between the
415 United States Army Corps of Engineers and the department for
416 minor work located in waters of the United States, including
417 navigable waters, and to eliminate, in appropriate cases, the
418 need for a separate individual approval from the United States
419 Army Corps of Engineers while ensuring the most stringent
420 protection of wetland resources.

421 (4) The department may not seek issuance of or take any
422 action pursuant to a permit unless the conditions of that permit
423 are at least as protective of the environment and natural
424 resources as existing state law under this part and federal law
425 under the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act of
426 1899.

427 (5) The department and the water management districts may
428 implement a voluntary state programmatic general permit for all
429 dredge and fill activities impacting 3 acres or less of wetlands
430 or other surface waters, including navigable waters, subject to
431 agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers, if the
432 general permit is at least as protective of the environment and
433 natural resources as existing state law under this part and
434 federal law under the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors
435 Act of 1899.

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436 ~~(1) The department is directed to develop, on or before~~
437 ~~October 1, 2005, a mechanism or plan to consolidate, to the~~
438 ~~maximum extent practicable, the federal and state wetland~~
439 ~~permitting programs. It is the intent of the Legislature that~~
440 ~~all dredge and fill activities impacting 10 acres or less of~~
441 ~~wetlands or waters, including navigable waters, be processed by~~
442 ~~the state as part of the environmental resource permitting~~
443 ~~program implemented by the department and the water management~~
444 ~~districts. The resulting mechanism or plan shall analyze and~~
445 ~~propose the development of an expanded state programmatic~~
446 ~~general permit program in conjunction with the United States~~
447 ~~Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to s. 404 of the Clean Water~~
448 ~~Act, Pub. L. No. 92-500, as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq.,~~
449 ~~and s. 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Alternatively,~~
450 ~~or in combination with an expanded state programmatic general~~
451 ~~permit, the mechanism or plan may propose the creation of a~~
452 ~~series of regional general permits issued by the United States~~
453 ~~Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to the referenced statutes. All~~
454 ~~of the regional general permits must be administered by the~~
455 ~~department or the water management districts or their designees.~~

456 ~~(2) The department is directed to file with the Speaker of~~
457 ~~the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate a~~
458 ~~report proposing any required federal and state statutory~~
459 ~~changes that would be necessary to accomplish the directives~~
460 ~~listed in this section and to coordinate with the Florida~~
461 ~~Congressional Delegation on any necessary changes to federal law~~
462 ~~to implement the directives.~~

463 ~~(6)~~(3) ~~Nothing in This section does not shall be construed~~
464 ~~to preclude the department from pursuing a series of regional~~

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465 general permits for construction activities in wetlands or
466 surface waters or from pursuing complete assumption of federal
467 permitting programs regulating the discharge of dredged or fill
468 material pursuant to s. 404 of the Clean Water Act, Pub. L. No.
469 92-500, as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq., and s. 10 of the
470 Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, so long as the assumption
471 encompasses all dredge and fill activities in, on, or over
472 jurisdictional wetlands or waters, including navigable waters,
473 within the state.

474 Section 10. Present subsections (3), (4), and (5) of
475 section 373.441, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections
476 (7), (8), and (9), respectively, and new subsections (3), (4),
477 and (5) and subsection (6) are added to that section, to read:

478 373.441 Role of counties, municipalities, and local
479 pollution control programs in permit processing; delegation.—

480 (3) A county or municipality that has a population of
481 400,000 or more as of July 1, 2012, and that implements a local
482 pollution control program regulating all or a portion of the
483 wetlands or surface waters throughout its geographic boundary
484 must apply for delegation of state environmental resource
485 permitting authority before January 1, 2014. If the county or
486 municipality fails to receive delegation of all or a portion of
487 state environmental resource permitting authority within 2 years
488 after submitting its application for delegation or by January 1,
489 2016, at the latest, it may not require permits that in part or
490 in full are substantially similar to the requirements needed to
491 obtain an environmental resource permit. A county or
492 municipality that has received delegation before January 1,
493 2014, does not need to reapply.

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494 (4) The department may delegate state environmental
495 resource permitting authority to local governments. The
496 department must grant or deny an application for delegation of
497 authority submitted by a county or municipality that meets the
498 criteria in subsection (3) within 2 years after receipt of the
499 application. If an application for delegation of authority is
500 denied, any available legal challenge to the denial tolls the
501 preemption deadline until resolution of the legal challenge.
502 Upon delegation of authority to a qualified local government,
503 the department and water management district may not regulate
504 the activities delegated to the qualified local government
505 within that jurisdiction.

506 (5) This section does not prohibit or limit a local
507 government that meets the criteria in subsection (3) from
508 regulating wetlands or surface waters on or after January 1,
509 2014, if the local government receives delegation of all or a
510 portion of state environmental resource permitting authority
511 within 2 years after submitting its application for the
512 delegation.

513 (6) Notwithstanding subsections (3), (4), and (5), this
514 section does not apply to environmental resource permitting or
515 reclamation applications for solid mineral mining and does not
516 prohibit the application of local government regulations to any
517 new solid mineral mine or any proposed addition to, change to,
518 or expansion of an existing solid mineral mine.

519 Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (11) of section
520 376.3071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

521 376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes;
522 funding.—

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523 (11)

524 (b) *Low-scored site initiative.*—Notwithstanding s.
525 376.30711, any site with a priority ranking score of 10 points
526 or less may voluntarily participate in the low-scored site
527 initiative, whether or not the site is eligible for state
528 restoration funding.

529 1. To participate in the low-scored site initiative, the
530 responsible party or property owner must affirmatively
531 demonstrate that the following conditions are met:

532 a. Upon reassessment pursuant to department rule, the site
533 retains a priority ranking score of 10 points or less.

534 b. No excessively contaminated soil, as defined by
535 department rule, exists onsite as a result of a release of
536 petroleum products.

537 c. A minimum of 6 months of groundwater monitoring
538 indicates that the plume is shrinking or stable.

539 d. The release of petroleum products at the site does not
540 adversely affect adjacent surface waters, including their
541 effects on human health and the environment.

542 e. The area of groundwater containing the petroleum
543 products' chemicals of concern is less than one-quarter acre and
544 is confined to the source property boundaries of the real
545 property on which the discharge originated.

546 f. Soils onsite that are subject to human exposure found
547 between land surface and 2 feet below land surface meet the soil
548 cleanup target levels established by department rule or human
549 exposure is limited by appropriate institutional or engineering
550 controls.

551 2. Upon affirmative demonstration of the conditions under

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552 subparagraph 1., the department shall issue a determination of
553 "No Further Action." Such determination acknowledges that
554 minimal contamination exists onsite and that such contamination
555 is not a threat to human health or the environment. If no
556 contamination is detected, the department may issue a site
557 rehabilitation completion order.

558 3. Sites that are eligible for state restoration funding
559 may receive payment of preapproved costs for the low-scored site
560 initiative as follows:

561 a. A responsible party or property owner may submit an
562 assessment plan designed to affirmatively demonstrate that the
563 site meets the conditions under subparagraph 1. Notwithstanding
564 the priority ranking score of the site, the department may
565 preapprove the cost of the assessment pursuant to s. 376.30711,
566 including 6 months of groundwater monitoring, not to exceed
567 \$30,000 for each site. The department may not pay the costs
568 associated with the establishment of institutional or
569 engineering controls.

570 b. The assessment work shall be completed no later than 6
571 months after the department issues its approval.

572 c. No more than \$10 million for the low-scored site
573 initiative may ~~shall~~ be encumbered from the Inland Protection
574 Trust Fund in any fiscal year. Funds shall be made available on
575 a first-come, first-served basis and shall be limited to 10
576 sites in each fiscal year for each responsible party or property
577 owner.

578 d. Program deductibles, copayments, and the limited
579 contamination assessment report requirements under paragraph
580 (13) (c) do not apply to expenditures under this paragraph.

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581 Section 12. Section 376.30715, Florida Statutes, is amended
582 to read:

583 376.30715 Innocent victim petroleum storage system
584 restoration.—A contaminated site acquired by the current owner
585 before ~~prior to~~ July 1, 1990, which has ceased operating as a
586 petroleum storage or retail business before ~~prior to~~ January 1,
587 1985, is eligible for financial assistance pursuant to s.
588 376.305(6), notwithstanding s. 376.305(6)(a). For purposes of
589 this section, the term “acquired” means the acquisition of title
590 to the property; however, a subsequent transfer of the property
591 to a spouse or a child of the owner, a surviving spouse or a
592 child of the owner in trust or free of trust, ~~or~~ a revocable
593 trust created for the benefit of the settlor, or a corporate
594 entity created by the owner to hold title to the site does not
595 disqualify the site from financial assistance pursuant to s.
596 376.305(6). Applicants previously denied coverage may reapply.
597 Eligible sites shall be ranked in accordance with s.
598 376.3071(5).

599 Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 380.0657, Florida
600 Statutes, is amended to read:

601 380.0657 Expedited permitting process for economic
602 development projects.—

603 (1) The Department of Environmental Protection and, as
604 appropriate, the water management districts created under
605 chapter 373 shall adopt programs to expedite the processing of
606 wetland resource and environmental resource permits for economic
607 development projects that have been identified by a municipality
608 or county as meeting the definition of target industry
609 businesses under s. 288.106, or any inland multimodal facility

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610 receiving or sending cargo to or from state ports, with the
611 exception of those projects requiring approval by the Board of
612 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

613 Section 14. Subsection (11) of section 403.061, Florida
614 Statutes, is amended to read:

615 403.061 Department; powers and duties.—The department shall
616 have the power and the duty to control and prohibit pollution of
617 air and water in accordance with the law and rules adopted and
618 promulgated by it and, for this purpose, to:

619 (11) Establish ambient air quality and water quality
620 standards for the state as a whole or for any part thereof, and
621 also standards for the abatement of excessive and unnecessary
622 noise. The department may ~~is authorized to~~ establish reasonable
623 zones of mixing for discharges into waters. For existing
624 installations as defined by department rule, zones of discharge
625 to groundwater are authorized to a facility's or owner's
626 property boundary and extending to the base of a specifically
627 designated aquifer or aquifers. Primary and secondary
628 groundwater standards that are exceeded and that occur within a
629 zone of discharge do not create a liability pursuant to this
630 chapter or chapter 376 for site cleanup, and soil cleanup target
631 levels that are exceeded are not a basis for enforcement or site
632 cleanup.

633 (a) ~~If~~ When a receiving body of water fails to meet a water
634 quality standard for pollutants set forth in department rules, a
635 steam electric generating plant discharge of pollutants that is
636 existing or licensed under this chapter on July 1, 1984, may
637 nevertheless be granted a mixing zone, provided that:

638 1. The standard would not be met in the water body in the

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639 absence of the discharge;

640 2. The discharge is in compliance with all applicable
641 technology-based effluent limitations;

642 3. The discharge does not cause a measurable increase in
643 the degree of noncompliance with the standard at the boundary of
644 the mixing zone; and

645 4. The discharge otherwise complies with the mixing zone
646 provisions specified in department rules.

647 (b) A ~~No~~ mixing zone for point source discharges may not
648 ~~shall~~ be permitted in Outstanding Florida Waters except for:

649 1. Sources that have received permits from the department
650 prior to April 1, 1982, or the date of designation, whichever is
651 later;

652 2. Blowdown from new power plants certified pursuant to the
653 Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act;

654 3. Discharges of water necessary for water management
655 purposes which have been approved by the governing board of a
656 water management district and, if required by law, by the
657 secretary; and

658 4. The discharge of demineralization concentrate which has
659 been determined permissible under s. 403.0882 and which meets
660 the specific provisions of s. 403.0882(4)(a) and (b), if the
661 proposed discharge is clearly in the public interest.

662 (c) The department, by rule, shall establish water quality
663 criteria for wetlands which criteria give appropriate
664 recognition to the water quality of such wetlands in their
665 natural state.

666

667 ~~Nothing in This act~~ does not ~~shall be construed to~~ invalidate

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668 any existing department rule relating to mixing zones. The
669 department shall cooperate with the Department of Highway Safety
670 and Motor Vehicles in the development of regulations required by
671 s. 316.272(1).

672

673 The department shall implement such programs in conjunction with
674 its other powers and duties and shall place special emphasis on
675 reducing and eliminating contamination that presents a threat to
676 humans, animals or plants, or to the environment.

677 Section 15. Subsection (7) of section 403.087, Florida
678 Statutes, is amended to read:

679 403.087 Permits; general issuance; denial; revocation;
680 prohibition; penalty.—

681 (7) A permit issued pursuant to this section does ~~shall~~ not
682 become a vested right in the permittee. The department may
683 revoke any permit issued by it if it finds that the permit holder
684 has:

685 (a) ~~Has~~ Submitted false or inaccurate information in the
686 ~~his or her~~ application for the permit;

687 (b) ~~Has~~ Violated law, department orders, rules, ~~or~~
688 ~~regulations~~, or ~~permit~~ conditions;

689 (c) ~~Has~~ Failed to submit operational reports or other
690 information required by department rule which directly relates
691 to the permit and has refused to correct or cure such violation
692 when requested to do so ~~or regulation~~; or

693 (d) ~~Has~~ Refused lawful inspection under s. 403.091 at the
694 facility authorized by the permit.

695 Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 403.1838, Florida
696 Statutes, is amended to read:

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697 403.1838 Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance
698 Act.—

699 (2) The department shall use funds specifically
700 appropriated to award grants under this section to assist
701 financially disadvantaged small communities with their needs for
702 adequate sewer facilities. For purposes of this section, the
703 term "financially disadvantaged small community" means a
704 municipality that has ~~with~~ a population of 10,000 ~~7,500~~ or fewer
705 ~~less~~, according to the latest decennial census and a per capita
706 annual income less than the state per capita annual income as
707 determined by the United States Department of Commerce.

708 Section 17. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section
709 403.7045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

710 403.7045 Application of act and integration with other
711 acts.—

712 (1) The following wastes or activities shall not be
713 regulated pursuant to this act:

714 (f) Industrial byproducts, if:

715 1. A majority of the industrial byproducts are demonstrated
716 to be sold, used, or reused within 1 year.

717 2. The industrial byproducts are not discharged, deposited,
718 injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed upon any land or
719 water so that such industrial byproducts, or any constituent
720 thereof, may enter other lands or be emitted into the air or
721 discharged into any waters, including groundwaters, or otherwise
722 enter the environment such that a threat of contamination in
723 excess of applicable department standards and criteria or a
724 significant threat to public health is caused.

725 3. The industrial byproducts are not hazardous wastes as

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726 defined under s. 403.703 and rules adopted under this section.

727
728 Sludge from an industrial waste treatment works which meets the
729 exemption requirements of this paragraph is not solid waste as
730 defined in s. 403.703(32).

731 Section 18. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 403.707,
732 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

733 403.707 Permits.—

734 (2) Except as provided in s. 403.722(6), a permit under
735 this section is not required for the following, ~~if the activity~~
736 ~~does not create a public nuisance or any condition adversely~~
737 ~~affecting the environment or public health and does not violate~~
738 ~~other state or local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, or~~
739 ~~orders:~~

740 (a) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their
741 own activities on their own property, if such waste is ordinary
742 household waste from their residential property or is rocks,
743 soils, trees, tree remains, and other vegetative matter that
744 normally result from land development operations. Disposal of
745 materials that could create a public nuisance or adversely
746 affect the environment or public health, such as white goods;
747 automotive materials, such as batteries and tires; petroleum
748 products; pesticides; solvents; or hazardous substances, is not
749 covered under this exemption.

750 (b) Storage in containers by persons of solid waste
751 resulting from their own activities on their property, leased or
752 rented property, or property subject to a homeowners' ~~homeowners~~
753 or maintenance association for which the person contributes
754 association assessments, if the solid waste in such containers

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755 is collected at least once a week.

756 (c) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their
757 own activities on their property, if the environmental effects
758 of such disposal on groundwater and surface waters are:

759 1. Addressed or authorized by a site certification order
760 issued under part II or a permit issued by the department under
761 this chapter or rules adopted pursuant to this chapter; or

762 2. Addressed or authorized by, or exempted from the
763 requirement to obtain, a groundwater monitoring plan approved by
764 the department. If a facility has a permit authorizing disposal
765 activity, a new area where solid waste is being disposed of
766 which is monitored by an existing or modified groundwater
767 monitoring plan is not required to be specifically authorized in
768 a permit or other certification.

769 (d) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their
770 own activities on their own property, if such disposal occurred
771 prior to October 1, 1988.

772 (e) Disposal of solid waste resulting from normal farming
773 operations as defined by department rule. Polyethylene
774 agricultural plastic, damaged, nonsalvageable, untreated wood
775 pallets, and packing material that cannot be feasibly recycled,
776 which are used in connection with agricultural operations
777 related to the growing, harvesting, or maintenance of crops, may
778 be disposed of by open burning if a public nuisance or any
779 condition adversely affecting the environment or the public
780 health is not created by the open burning and state or federal
781 ambient air quality standards are not violated.

782 (f) The use of clean debris as fill material in any area.
783 However, this paragraph does not exempt any person from

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784 obtaining any other required permits, and does not affect a
785 person's responsibility to dispose of clean debris appropriately
786 if it is not to be used as fill material.

787 (g) Compost operations that produce less than 50 cubic
788 yards of compost per year when the compost produced is used on
789 the property where the compost operation is located.

790 (3) (a) All applicable provisions of ss. 403.087 and
791 403.088, relating to permits, apply to the control of solid
792 waste management facilities.

793 (b) A permit, including a general permit, issued to a solid
794 waste management facility that is designed with a leachate
795 control system meeting department requirements shall be issued
796 for a term of 20 years unless the applicant requests a shorter
797 permit term. Notwithstanding the limitations of s.
798 403.087(6)(a), existing permit fees for a qualifying solid waste
799 management facility shall be adjusted to the permit term
800 authorized by this section. This paragraph applies to a
801 qualifying solid waste management facility that applies for an
802 operating or construction permit or renews an existing operating
803 or construction permit on or after October 1, 2012.

804 (c) A permit, including a general permit, but not including
805 a registration, issued to a solid waste management facility that
806 does not have a leachate control system meeting department
807 requirements shall be renewed for a term of 10 years, unless the
808 applicant requests a shorter term, if the following conditions
809 are met:

810 1. The applicant has conducted the regulated activity at
811 the same site for which the renewal is sought for at least 4
812 years and 6 months before the date that the permit application

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813 is received by the department; and

814 2. At the time of applying for the renewal permit:

815 a. The applicant is not subject to a notice of violation,
816 consent order, or administrative order issued by the department
817 for violation of an applicable law or rule;

818 b. The department has not notified the applicant that the
819 applicant is required to implement assessment or evaluation
820 monitoring as a result of applicable groundwater standards or
821 criteria being exceeded, or, if applicable, the applicant is
822 completing corrective actions in accordance with applicable
823 department rules; and

824 c. The applicant is in compliance with the applicable
825 financial assurance requirements.

826 (d) The department may adopt rules to administer this
827 subsection; however, the provisions of chapter 120 which require
828 a statement of estimated regulatory cost and legislative
829 ratification do not apply to such rulemaking, and the department
830 is not required to submit the rules to the Environmental
831 Regulation Commission for approval. Notwithstanding the
832 limitations of s. 403.087(6) (a), permit fee caps for solid waste
833 management facilities shall be prorated to reflect the extended
834 permit term authorized by this subsection.

835 Section 19. Subsection (5) is added to section 403.709,
836 Florida Statutes, to read:

837 403.709 Solid Waste Management Trust Fund; use of waste
838 tire fees.—There is created the Solid Waste Management Trust
839 Fund, to be administered by the department.

840 (5) A solid waste landfill closure account is created
841 within the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund to provide funding

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842 for the closing and long-term care of solid waste management
843 facilities, if:

844 (a) The facility has or had a department permit to operate;

845 (b) The permittee provided proof of financial assurance for
846 closure in the form of an insurance certificate;

847 (c) The facility has been deemed to be abandoned or has
848 been ordered to close by the department; and

849 (d) Closure will be accomplished in substantial accordance
850 with a closure plan approved by the department.

851

852 The department has a reasonable expectation that the insurance
853 company issuing the closure insurance policy will provide or
854 reimburse most or all of the funds required to complete the
855 closing and long-term care of the facility. If the insurance
856 company reimburses the department for the costs of the closing
857 or long-term care of the facility, the department shall deposit
858 the funds into the solid waste landfill closure account.

859 Section 20. Section 403.7125, Florida Statutes, is amended
860 to read:

861 403.7125 Financial assurance ~~for closure.~~-

862 (1) Each ~~Every~~ owner or operator of a landfill is jointly
863 and severally liable for the improper operation and closure of
864 the landfill, as provided by law. As used in this section, the
865 term "owner or operator" means any owner of record of any
866 interest in land wherein a landfill is or has been located and
867 any person or corporation that owns a majority interest in any
868 other corporation that is the owner or operator of a landfill.

869 (2) The owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated
870 by a local or state government or the Federal Government shall

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871 establish a fee, or a surcharge on existing fees or other
872 appropriate revenue-producing mechanism, to ensure the
873 availability of financial resources for the proper closure of
874 the landfill. However, the disposal of solid waste by persons on
875 their own property, as described in s. 403.707(2), is exempt
876 from this section.

877 (a) The revenue-producing mechanism must produce revenue at
878 a rate sufficient to generate funds to meet state and federal
879 landfill closure requirements.

880 (b) The revenue shall be deposited in an interest-bearing
881 escrow account to be held and administered by the owner or
882 operator. The owner or operator shall file with the department
883 an annual audit of the account. The audit shall be conducted by
884 an independent certified public accountant. Failure to collect
885 or report such revenue, except as allowed in subsection (3), is
886 a noncriminal violation punishable by a fine of not more than
887 \$5,000 for each offense. The owner or operator may make
888 expenditures from the account and its accumulated interest only
889 for the purpose of landfill closure and, if such expenditures do
890 not deplete the fund to the detriment of eventual closure, for
891 planning and construction of resource recovery or landfill
892 facilities. Any moneys remaining in the account after paying for
893 proper and complete closure, as determined by the department,
894 shall, if the owner or operator does not operate a landfill, be
895 deposited by the owner or operator into the general fund or the
896 appropriate solid waste fund of the local government of
897 jurisdiction.

898 (c) The revenue generated under this subsection and any
899 accumulated interest thereon may be applied to the payment of,

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900 or pledged as security for, the payment of revenue bonds issued
901 in whole or in part for the purpose of complying with state and
902 federal landfill closure requirements. Such application or
903 pledge may be made directly in the proceedings authorizing such
904 bonds or in an agreement with an insurer of bonds to assure such
905 insurer of additional security therefor.

906 (d) The provisions of s. 212.055 which relate to raising of
907 revenues for landfill closure or long-term maintenance do not
908 relieve a landfill owner or operator from the obligations of
909 this section.

910 (e) The owner or operator of any landfill that had
911 established an escrow account in accordance with this section
912 and the conditions of its permit before ~~prior to~~ January 1,
913 2007, may continue to use that escrow account to provide
914 financial assurance for closure of that landfill, even if that
915 landfill is not owned or operated by a local or state government
916 or the Federal Government.

917 (3) An owner or operator of a landfill owned or operated by
918 a local or state government or by the Federal Government may
919 provide financial assurance to the department in lieu of the
920 requirements of subsection (2). An owner or operator of any
921 other landfill, or any other solid waste management facility
922 designated by department rule, shall provide financial assurance
923 to the department for the closure of the facility. Such
924 financial assurance may include surety bonds, certificates of
925 deposit, securities, letters of credit, or other documents
926 showing that the owner or operator has sufficient financial
927 resources to cover, at a minimum, the costs of complying with
928 applicable closure requirements. The owner or operator shall

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929 estimate such costs to the satisfaction of the department.

930 (4) This section does not repeal, limit, or abrogate any
931 other law authorizing local governments to fix, levy, or charge
932 rates, fees, or charges for the purpose of complying with state
933 and federal landfill closure requirements.

934 (5) The department shall by rule require that the owner or
935 operator of a solid waste management facility that receives
936 waste on or after October 9, 1993, and that is required by
937 department rule to undertake corrective actions for violations
938 of water quality standards provide financial assurance for the
939 cost of completing such corrective actions. The same financial
940 assurance mechanisms that are available for closure costs shall
941 be available for costs associated with undertaking corrective
942 actions.

943 (6)~~(5)~~ The department shall adopt rules to implement this
944 section.

945 Section 21. Subsection (12) is added to section 403.814,
946 Florida Statutes, to read:

947 403.814 General permits; delegation.—

948 (12) A general permit shall be granted for the
949 construction, alteration, and maintenance of a surface water
950 management system serving a total project area of up to 10
951 acres. The construction of the system may proceed without any
952 agency action by the department or water management district if:

953 (a) The total project area is less than 10 acres;

954 (b) The total project area involves less than 2 acres of
955 impervious surface;

956 (c) The activities will not impact wetlands or other
957 surface waters;

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958 (d) The activities are not conducted in, on, or over
959 wetlands or other surface waters;

960 (e) Drainage facilities will not include pipes having
961 diameters greater than 24 inches, or the hydraulic equivalent,
962 and will not use pumps in any manner;

963 (f) The project is not part of a larger common plan,
964 development, or sale;

965 (g) The project does not cause:

966 1. Adverse water quantity or flooding impacts to receiving
967 water and adjacent lands;

968 2. Adverse impacts to existing surface water storage and
969 conveyance capabilities;

970 3. A violation of state water quality standards; or

971 4. An adverse impact to the maintenance of surface or
972 ground water levels or surface water flows established pursuant
973 to s. 373.042 or a work of the district established pursuant to
974 s. 373.086; and

975 (h) The surface water management system design plans are
976 signed and sealed by a Florida-registered professional who
977 attests that the system will perform and function as proposed
978 and has been designed in accordance with appropriate, generally
979 accepted performance standards and scientific principles.

980 Section 22. Subsection (6) of section 403.853, Florida
981 Statutes, is amended to read:

982 403.853 Drinking water standards.—

983 (6) Upon the request of the owner or operator of a
984 transient noncommunity water system using groundwater as a
985 source of supply and serving religious institutions or
986 businesses, other than restaurants or other public food service

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987 establishments or religious institutions with school or day care
988 services, ~~and using groundwater as a source of supply,~~ the
989 department, or a local county health department designated by
990 the department, shall perform a sanitary survey of the facility.
991 Upon receipt of satisfactory survey results according to
992 department criteria, the department shall reduce the
993 requirements of such owner or operator from monitoring and
994 reporting on a quarterly basis to performing these functions on
995 an annual basis. Any revised monitoring and reporting schedule
996 approved by the department under this subsection shall apply
997 until such time as a violation of applicable state or federal
998 primary drinking water standards is determined by the system
999 owner or operator, by the department, or by an agency designated
1000 by the department, after a random or routine sanitary survey.
1001 Certified operators are not required for transient noncommunity
1002 water systems of the type and size covered by this subsection.
1003 Any reports required of such system shall be limited to the
1004 minimum as required by federal law. When not contrary to the
1005 provisions of federal law, the department may, upon request and
1006 by rule, waive additional provisions of state drinking water
1007 regulations for such systems.

1008 Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and subsections
1009 (4), (5), (10), (11), (14), (15), and (18) of section 403.973,
1010 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1011 403.973 Expedited permitting; amendments to comprehensive
1012 plans.—

1013 (3) (a) The secretary shall direct the creation of regional
1014 permit action teams for the purpose of expediting review of
1015 permit applications and local comprehensive plan amendments

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1016 submitted by:

1017 1. Businesses creating at least 50 jobs or a commercial or
1018 industrial development project that will be occupied by
1019 businesses that would individually or collectively create at
1020 least 50 jobs; or

1021 2. Businesses creating at least 25 jobs if the project is
1022 located in an enterprise zone, or in a county having a
1023 population of fewer than 75,000 or in a county having a
1024 population of fewer than 125,000 which is contiguous to a county
1025 having a population of fewer than 75,000, as determined by the
1026 most recent decennial census, residing in incorporated and
1027 unincorporated areas of the county.

1028 (4) The regional teams shall be established through the
1029 execution of a project-specific memorandum ~~memoranda~~ of
1030 agreement developed and executed by the applicant and the
1031 secretary, with input solicited from ~~the Department of Economic~~
1032 ~~Opportunity~~ and the respective heads of the Department of
1033 Transportation and its district offices, the Department of
1034 Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Fish and Wildlife
1035 Conservation Commission, appropriate regional planning councils,
1036 appropriate water management districts, and voluntarily
1037 participating municipalities and counties. The memorandum
1038 ~~memoranda~~ of agreement should also accommodate participation in
1039 this expedited process by other local governments and federal
1040 agencies as circumstances warrant.

1041 (5) In order to facilitate local government's option to
1042 participate in this expedited review process, the secretary
1043 shall, in cooperation with local governments and participating
1044 state agencies, create a standard form memorandum of agreement.

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1045 The standard form of the memorandum of agreement shall be used
1046 only if the local government participates in the expedited
1047 review process. In the absence of local government
1048 participation, only the project-specific memorandum of agreement
1049 executed pursuant to subsection (4) applies. A local government
1050 shall hold a duly noticed public workshop to review and explain
1051 to the public the expedited permitting process and the terms and
1052 conditions of the standard form memorandum of agreement.

1053 (10) The memorandum ~~memoranda~~ of agreement may provide for
1054 the waiver or modification of procedural rules prescribing
1055 forms, fees, procedures, or time limits for the review or
1056 processing of permit applications under the jurisdiction of
1057 those agencies that are members of the regional permit action
1058 team ~~party to the memoranda of agreement~~. Notwithstanding any
1059 other provision of law to the contrary, a memorandum of
1060 agreement must to the extent feasible provide for proceedings
1061 and hearings otherwise held separately ~~by the parties to the~~
1062 ~~memorandum of agreement~~ to be combined into one proceeding or
1063 held jointly and at one location. Such waivers or modifications
1064 are not authorized ~~shall not be available~~ for permit
1065 applications governed by federally delegated or approved
1066 permitting programs, the requirements of which would prohibit,
1067 or be inconsistent with, such a waiver or modification.

1068 (11) The memorandum ~~standard form for memoranda~~ of
1069 agreement must ~~shall~~ include guidelines to be used in working
1070 with state, regional, and local permitting authorities.
1071 Guidelines may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1072 (a) A central contact point for filing permit applications
1073 and local comprehensive plan amendments and for obtaining

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1074 information on permit and local comprehensive plan amendment
1075 requirements.†

1076 (b) Identification of the individual or individuals within
1077 each respective agency who will be responsible for processing
1078 the expedited permit application or local comprehensive plan
1079 amendment for that agency.†

1080 (c) A mandatory preapplication review process to reduce
1081 permitting conflicts by providing guidance to applicants
1082 regarding the permits needed from each agency and governmental
1083 entity, site planning and development, site suitability and
1084 limitations, facility design, and steps the applicant can take
1085 to ensure expeditious permit application and local comprehensive
1086 plan amendment review. As a part of this process, the first
1087 interagency meeting to discuss a project shall be held within 14
1088 days after the secretary's determination that the project is
1089 eligible for expedited review. Subsequent interagency meetings
1090 may be scheduled to accommodate the needs of participating local
1091 governments that are unable to meet public notice requirements
1092 for executing a memorandum of agreement within this timeframe.
1093 This accommodation may not exceed 45 days from the secretary's
1094 determination that the project is eligible for expedited
1095 review.†

1096 (d) The preparation of a single coordinated project
1097 description form and checklist and an agreement by state and
1098 regional agencies to reduce the burden on an applicant to
1099 provide duplicate information to multiple agencies.†

1100 (e) Establishment of a process for the adoption and review
1101 of any comprehensive plan amendment needed by any certified
1102 project within 90 days after the submission of an application

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1103 for a comprehensive plan amendment. However, the memorandum of
1104 agreement may not prevent affected persons as defined in s.
1105 163.3184 from appealing or participating in this expedited plan
1106 amendment process and any review or appeals of decisions made
1107 under this paragraph. ~~and~~

1108 (f) Additional incentives for an applicant who proposes a
1109 project that provides a net ecosystem benefit.

1110 (14) (a) Challenges to state agency action in the expedited
1111 permitting process for projects processed under this section are
1112 subject to the summary hearing provisions of s. 120.574, except
1113 that the administrative law judge's decision, as provided in s.
1114 120.574(2) (f), shall be in the form of a recommended order and
1115 do not constitute the final action of the state agency. In those
1116 proceedings where the action of only one agency of the state
1117 other than the Department of Environmental Protection is
1118 challenged, the agency of the state shall issue the final order
1119 within 45 working days after receipt of the administrative law
1120 judge's recommended order, and the recommended order shall
1121 inform the parties of their right to file exceptions or
1122 responses to the recommended order in accordance with the
1123 uniform rules of procedure pursuant to s. 120.54. In those
1124 proceedings where the actions of more than one agency of the
1125 state are challenged, the Governor shall issue the final order
1126 within 45 working days after receipt of the administrative law
1127 judge's recommended order, and the recommended order shall
1128 inform the parties of their right to file exceptions or
1129 responses to the recommended order in accordance with the
1130 uniform rules of procedure pursuant to s. 120.54. For This
1131 ~~paragraph does not apply to~~ the issuance of department licenses

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1132 required under any federally delegated or approved permit
1133 program. ~~In such instances,~~ the department, and not the
1134 Governor, shall enter the final order. The participating
1135 agencies of the state may opt at the preliminary hearing
1136 conference to allow the administrative law judge's decision to
1137 constitute the final agency action.

1138 (b) Projects identified in paragraph (3)(f) or challenges
1139 to state agency action in the expedited permitting process for
1140 establishment of a state-of-the-art biomedical research
1141 institution and campus in this state by the grantee under s.
1142 288.955 are subject to the same requirements as challenges
1143 brought under paragraph (a), except that, notwithstanding s.
1144 120.574, summary proceedings must be conducted within 30 days
1145 after a party files the motion for summary hearing, regardless
1146 of whether the parties agree to the summary proceeding.

1147 (15) The Department of Economic Opportunity, working with
1148 the agencies providing cooperative assistance and input
1149 regarding the memorandum ~~memoranda~~ of agreement, shall review
1150 sites proposed for the location of facilities that the
1151 Department of Economic Opportunity has certified to be eligible
1152 for the Innovation Incentive Program under s. 288.1089. Within
1153 20 days after the request for the review by the Department of
1154 Economic Opportunity, the agencies shall provide to the
1155 Department of Economic Opportunity a statement as to each site's
1156 necessary permits under local, state, and federal law and an
1157 identification of significant permitting issues, which if
1158 unresolved, may result in the denial of an agency permit or
1159 approval or any significant delay caused by the permitting
1160 process.

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1161 (18) The Department of Economic Opportunity, working with
1162 the Rural Economic Development Initiative ~~and the agencies~~
1163 ~~participating in the memoranda of agreement~~, shall provide
1164 technical assistance in preparing permit applications and local
1165 comprehensive plan amendments for counties having a population
1166 of fewer than 75,000 residents, or counties having fewer than
1167 125,000 residents which are contiguous to counties having fewer
1168 than 75,000 residents. Additional assistance may include, but
1169 not be limited to, guidance in land development regulations and
1170 permitting processes, working cooperatively with state,
1171 regional, and local entities to identify areas within these
1172 counties which may be suitable or adaptable for preclearance
1173 review of specified types of land uses and other activities
1174 requiring permits.

1175 Section 24. Subsection (1) of section 526.203, Florida
1176 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that
1177 section, to read:

1178 526.203 Renewable fuel standard.—

1179 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this act:

1180 (a) "Blender," "importer," "terminal supplier," and
1181 "wholesaler" are defined as provided in s. 206.01.

1182 (b) "Blended gasoline" means a mixture of 90 to 91 percent
1183 gasoline and 9 to 10 percent fuel ethanol or other renewable
1184 fuel, by volume, which ~~that~~ meets the specifications as adopted
1185 by the department. The fuel ethanol portion may be derived from
1186 any agricultural source.

1187 (c) "Fuel ethanol" means an anhydrous denatured alcohol
1188 produced by the conversion of carbohydrates that meets the
1189 specifications as adopted by the department.

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1190 (d) "Renewable fuel" means a fuel produced from renewable
1191 biomass which is used to replace or reduce the quantity of
1192 fossil fuel present in a transportation fuel.

1193 (e)~~(d)~~ "Unblended gasoline" means gasoline that has not
1194 been blended with fuel ethanol and that meets the specifications
1195 as adopted by the department.

1196 (5) SALE OF UNBLENDED FUELS.—This section does not prohibit
1197 the sale of unblended fuels for the uses exempted under
1198 subsection (3).

1199 Section 25. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.



Soil & Water Conservation District

6285 Dogwood Drive
Milton, FL 32570-3569

(850) 623-3229 ext. 3
Fax (850) 626-3524

February 2, 2012

Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
325 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Dear Senators:

Re: Senate Bill 2012- 1254 (SB 1254)

I am writing you this letter, on behalf of the Board of Supervisors for Blackwater Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), to ask that you do everything in your power to make sure that Senate Bill 1254 **DOES NOT** pass. This bill, among other things, would revise existing state legislation (Florida Statute 582) governing soil and water conservation districts. This bill will allow the Commissioner of Agriculture to dissolve districts.

Florida Statute 582 was created following former President Roosevelt's request that states pass legislation allowing **local** landowners to form soil and water conservation districts and have a direct role in conservation work. Districts were established in this way, for it was understood that locally led conservation is what would work best.

Recently there has been pressure from the Governor, on down, to restrict Florida's special taxing districts. Unfortunately, soil and water conservation districts have been lumped into this category even though none of the districts have taxing authority.

Blackwater SWCD was established in 1942, as the district responsible for protecting the natural resources of Santa Rosa County, Florida. We are a non-regulatory, technical agency that serves as the link between private landowners and the USDA. Rural areas make up a large portion of our county, with nearly 550,000 acres of privately owned agricultural land. With all this resource use comes an increased need for conservation and one of the district's goals is to promote this conservation by voluntary means. Local farmers utilize the technical assistance that Blackwater SWCD provides to meet these resource challenges.

Blackwater SWCD receives no direct funds from the State and the supervisors that serve on the board receive no compensation.

Protecting Santa Rosa County's Natural Resources

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Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
February 2, 2012
Page 2

For almost 70 years, Blackwater SWCD has been providing technical assistance to individuals throughout Santa Rosa County on a day to day basis. We have formed strong relationships with many of our local landowners and have worked together with them putting conservation on the ground. Over the years, there have been a great many successes directly linked to the ventures of this district.

Last year, a more direct attempt was made to eliminate districts with Senate Bill 628, which was later withdrawn. This year, changes to the statute are being attached, almost like a rider, to a number of other Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services provisions under Senate Bill 1254, in the hopes that it will get little attention and pass.

Please do what you can to stop this bill. The proposed changes will open the door for the future elimination of ~~all~~ districts, regardless of whether or not they have any taxing authority. There is no better group than soil and water conservation districts at safeguarding natural resources within the state. They have an intimate connection with the people and places they serve and that unique quality can not be found elsewhere.

In closing, I ask that you please **NOT** support Senate Bill 1254. I ask that you instead support the continued work of districts, like ours, and keep the long standing SWCD tradition alive and well in Florida.

Sincerely,



John C. Salter
Blackwater SWCD Chairman

cc: Association of Florida Conservation Districts

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The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/CS/SB 1254

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee; Agriculture Committee; and Senator Siplin

SUBJECT: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

DATE: February 7, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Akhavein</u>	<u>Buford</u>	<u>AG</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u>Uchino</u>	<u>Yeatman</u>	<u>EP</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3.	_____	_____	<u>BC</u>	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

This committee substitute (CS) addresses issues relating to agriculture and certain powers and duties of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). It:

- Establishes the Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness;
- Designates DACS, rather than the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), as the staff responsible for acquiring and administering conservation easements on land that is acquired under the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program;
- Extends the date from September 15 to September 30 for mosquito control districts to provide their certified budgets to DACS;
- Revises the products that mosquito control districts are authorized to use to control mosquito breeding;
- Repeals statutory language relating to the John A. Mulrennan, Sr., Arthropod Research Laboratory;
- Eliminates travel and per diem reimbursements for several councils;
- Allows DACS to adopt the most current federal regulations to address the safety and protection of food offered at retail and wholesale;

- Eliminates the Food Safety Pilot Program, relating to inspection of food establishments and vehicles;
- Updates milk, milk products and frozen dessert laws;
- Updates the name of the Office of Energy and Water to the Office of Agricultural Water Policy;
- Repeals the statute relating to the Florida Agricultural Exposition which was closed in 2008;
- Eliminates three technical councils and replaces them with a new Agricultural Feed, Seed and Fertilizer Advisory Council;
- Requires a review of marketing orders when requested by an advisory council rather than an annual audit by a certified public accountant;
- Extends the expiration dates for the fertilizer tonnage fee program to December 31, 2022, and December 31, 2027;
- Requires commercial feed distributors to report quarterly on the amount of feed distributed in Florida and provides penalties for failure to comply;
- Authorizes DACS to impose and recover monetary penalties for commercial feed found to be deficient or excessive in nutrients;
- Provides that consumers who purchase commercial feed that is in violation of DACS standards may seek legal or administrative action to recover penalties;
- Provides the ability for soil and water conservation districts to work across district lines to utilize water conservation devices, systems, and techniques;
- Provides that the proceeds of the sale of soil and water conservation district property be credited to the district rather than DACS;
- Repeals provisions relating to cattle vaccination for brucellosis;
- Renames the “Wounded Warrior Special Hunt Area” as the “Operation Outdoor Freedom Special Hunt Area”;
- Allows DACS to deposit funds from private sources, as well as federal funds, into the Florida Forest Service Incidental Trust Fund for reforestation projects;
- Gives the Florida Forest Service the sole authority to enforce silviculture and agricultural open burning and eliminates duplicative permitting by other entities of the state;
- Provides an education fee waiver for elementary, middle, high school, and vocational schools that participate in the aquaculture certification program;
- Eliminates the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council; and
- Deletes the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council from the membership of the Aquaculture Review Council.

This CS amends sections 20.14, 253.002, 379.2523, 379.2524, 388.161, 388.201, 388.323, 388.46, 493.6104, 500.09, 500.147, 502.014, 502.053, 570.0705, 570.074, 570.18, 570.53, 570.54, 573.112, 573.118, 576.045, 576.071, 580.041, 580.131, 581.011, 581.145, 582.06, 582.20, 582.29, 582.30, 582.31, 582.32, 589.19, 589.277, 590.02, 597.0021, 597.003, 597.004, 597.005, 604.21 and 616.252 of the Florida Statutes.

This CS creates section 570.451 of the Florida Statutes.

This CS repeals sections 388.42, 570.071, 570.29, 570.34, 576.091, 578.30, 580.151, 585.155, 589.03, and 597.006 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness

The 2011 Legislature created the Healthy Schools for Healthy Lives Act, which provides for a type two transfer of administration of school food and nutrition programs from the Department of Education to DACS, pending a waiver from the United States Department of Agriculture. That waiver was granted in October 2011; therefore, on January 1, 2012, DACS assumed administration of the state's school food and nutrition programs. The Commissioner of Agriculture states that DACS is the most experienced and best positioned to manage Florida's school food and nutrition programs. Furthermore it is the commissioner's position that the transfer will foster increased coordination between Florida farmers and the school programs that provide food for Florida's children.¹

Board of Trustees Lands

The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund consists of the Governor and Cabinet. The Division of State Lands within DEP currently serves as staff to the board for the acquisition, administration, and disposition of state lands, with certain exceptions. This CS removes DEP as the intermediary for acquisition of conservation easements that are acquired under the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program (RFLPP). The RFLPP was created by the 2001 Legislature to protect agricultural lands from development through permanent easement acquisitions from qualified and willing agricultural land owners. Landowners protecting their land under this program are free to undertake any agricultural practice as long as they are willing to follow established best management practices.

DACS has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DEP which allows DACS to carry out the responsibilities of acquiring conservation easements. In accordance with the MOU, DACS negotiates, contracts, and performs all due diligence with regard to the real estate transactions, prepares the Board of Trustees agenda item and presents the item at a regular scheduled meeting. All information for the real estate transaction must be submitted to DEP for review prior to the Board of Trustees meeting, and it also must be given to DEP for a final review prior to closing. This CS eliminates steps that DACS considers redundant by removing DEP as the intermediary and allowing DACS to act as an agent of the Board of Trustees.

Per Diem and Travel Expenses for Advisory Committees

Section 112.061, F.S., establishes standard travel reimbursement rates, procedures, and limitations applicable to all public officers, employees, and authorized persons whose travel is authorized and paid by a public agency. This allows members of select statutorily created advisory councils to receive compensation for per diem and travel expenses. The members organize and host the meetings of the councils, and have in the past been provided with per diem and travel expenses in accordance with these provisions.

¹ Analysis, Senate Bill 1312, 2011 Legislative Session.

In order to reduce costs, several advisory committees and councils were stripped of the ability to receive travel expenses and per diem by the 2011 Legislature. This CS includes some committees and councils that were overlooked in 2011 and also reinstates travel expenses and per diem for some advisory committees that do not fall under DACS purview.²

Mosquito Control

Mosquito control is Florida's first line of defense against mosquito-borne diseases such as West Nile encephalitis, St. Louis encephalitis, eastern encephalitis, dengue and many others.³ Chapter 388, F.S., addresses mosquito control efforts in the state. It allows any city, town or county, or any other area in the state to create a special taxing district for the control of arthropods. There are currently 62 mosquito control programs in Florida.

The fiscal year for districts is the 12-month period extending from October 1 of one year through September 30 of the following year. Prior to July 15 of each year, the district governing board must complete the preparation of a tentative detailed work plan budget. The tentative budget must include proposed operations and requirements for arthropod control measures during the ensuing fiscal year. For the purpose of determining eligibility for state aid, the governing board must submit copies to DACS for review and approval. The board must adopt and execute a certified budget and submit it to DACS for approval by September 15, which prevents current revenue and expense information from being included and is inconsistent with county budgetary schedules.

Disposal of Surplus Property

Mosquito control districts are currently required to offer surplus property (such as application equipment, spray trucks, aircraft, aircraft parts, etc.) to all other counties or districts engaged in arthropod control at a price established by the board of commissioners that owns the equipment. This equipment is typically highly specialized and only of use to other mosquito control programs, if it has any residual value at all. If no acceptable offer is received within a reasonable time, the equipment can be offered to other governmental units or private nonprofit agencies. The mosquito program that disposes of the surplus property retains the funds for use in the control program. Eliminating this requirement will allow the equipment to be offered to other mosquito control programs, and, if not taken by them, disposed of by auction or scrap disposal without the additional step of offering it to all local governments. This will eliminate an unnecessary step in the equipment disposal process for mosquito control programs.

John A. Mulrennan, Sr., Arthropod Research Laboratory

The John A. Mulrennan, Sr., Arthropod Research Laboratory is a research laboratory in Panama City, Florida, under the administration of the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University

² CS/CS/HB 7215, 2011 Legislative Session.

³ University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory, <http://fme1.ifas.ufl.edu/> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

(FAMU). FAMU closed the laboratory on June 30, 2011.⁴ The laboratory performed basic and applied research to develop and test formulations, application techniques, and procedures of pesticides and biological control agents for the control of arthropods and, in particular, biting arthropods of public health or nuisance importance. Each quarter, the laboratory provided DACS with such information as it needed to assist in the performance of its duties with respect to arthropod control under ch. 388, F.S. The laboratory also served as a center for training of students and state and local government personnel in the safe and effective control of biting arthropods.

FAMU was represented on the Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control in order to coordinate the activities of the laboratory with the needs and interests of mosquito control stakeholders in Florida. With the close of the laboratory, there is no reason for continued representation on the council or for mention of the laboratory in statute.

U.S. Food and Drug Administration Food Code

The United States Food Code is a model created by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to assist federal, state, local and tribal control jurisdictions in regulating any entity that sells, manufactures, or provides food as part of their services. This law was instituted because some food manufacturers were producing and selling impure products for consumption. The FDA Food Code was adopted to protect the citizens of this country from bodily harm that could arise from consuming contaminated food and to provide various entities a uniform standard, and a final authority, regarding any questionable practices in the preparation or sales of food. The FDA Food Code is currently updated every four years.⁵

The Division of Food Safety (division) is responsible for assuring the public of a safe, wholesome and properly represented food supply through permitting and inspection of food establishments, inspection of food products, and performance of specialized laboratory analyses on a variety of food products sold or produced in the state. The division monitors food from farm gate through processing and distribution to the retail point of purchase. Section 500.09(3), F.S., requires the division to adopt the rules necessary to enforce the provisions of ch. 500, F.S., and provides that DACS is authorized to adopt by reference the rules adopted by the Food and Drug Administration with regard to food safety. DACS has indicated that the authority to adopt all current changes to the FDA Food Code and Federal Code of Regulations as they are released and implemented by the federal government will best protect the health and safety of Florida citizens.

Food Safety Pilot Program

The 1997 Legislature created a food safety pilot program for the inspection of food establishments and vehicles to increase efficiency and reduce costs by allowing certain food establishments to start self-inspection. To be eligible for this program, a food establishment must have a good inspection record, certified food managers, active food training programs, thorough

⁴ Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, College of Engineering, Sciences, Technology & Agriculture, Public Health Entomology Research and Education Center, <http://www.famu.edu/cesta/main/index.cfm/research/public-health-entomology-research-and-education-center/#my-menu> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

⁵ United States Food and Drug Administration, *Introduction to FDA Food Code*, <http://www.fda.gov/food/foodsafety/retailfoodprotection/foodcode/default.htm> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

records, and written Sanitation Standard Operation Procedures in place. Seventeen food establishments participated in the program, and DACS audited the participants periodically to ensure compliance with the federal and state food laws.⁶ By 2004, due to the difficulty of compliance, there were no establishments remaining in the program. As an alternative to the pilot program, the Division of Food Safety has implemented a variable inspection frequency, which rewards food establishments with good sanitary history by reducing the frequency of inspections. The variable inspection frequency has proven to be less burdensome on the industry than the pilot program.

Milkfat Testing

Currently, DACS is required to maintain a program to issue permits to persons who test milk or milk products for fat content if the tests will be used as a basis for payment to a dairy farmer. Approximately 65 permitted analysts currently pay \$125 for a two-year permit that involves certain steps to obtain. First, a person seeking to be licensed as a Milk Fat Tester/Analyst must be employed by and work in an industry milk laboratory. Next, the applicant must also have a satisfactory onsite evaluation by the State Milk Laboratory Evaluation Officer and participate in the state's Split Sample Milk Fat Program twice a year with satisfactory results. In this program, samples are prepared and shipped to industry labs for analysts to test and report back their results to the Central Dairy Laboratory. Since this program was implemented in 1973, the USDA Milk Marketing Administration has started a program that provides the same function of making sure the dairy farmer is fairly paid, making the state program redundant.

Florida Agricultural Exposition

In a joint venture, DACS and the Department of Corrections constructed and equipped an agricultural exposition center in 1969 known as the Florida Agricultural Exposition in Indiantown, Florida. The purpose of the facility was to:

- Demonstrate and sell Florida agricultural and agriculture business products;
- Attract and inform buyers;
- Conduct agricultural short courses and conferences;
- Organize tours in the aid of marketing Florida agricultural products to the domestic, Latin American, and other foreign markets; and
- Train prisoners of the correctional institutions of the state in agricultural labor and management.

A local rancher who was involved with the facility said that the facility had an emphasis on cows and used inmates at the Martin Correctional Institution to gentle the livestock or help show the different breeds.⁷ To support the facility, DACS and the Department of Corrections were authorized to accept monetary donations from growers and dealers of agricultural products and their associated entities, the federal government, and other sources. DACS was also authorized to expend up to \$25,000 of its own funds, if available. As a result of decreased use, significantly increased costs, and a profile change in inmates of the Martin Correctional Institute, the facility was closed in 2008 by budget cuts of the Legislature and Governor.

⁶ Analysis, Senate Bill 2044, 1997 Legislative Session.

⁷ Telephone interview with Michael Duane by librarian of Elisabeth Lahti Library, Indiantown, Florida.

Office of Energy and Water

In 1995, the Legislature authorized the Commissioner of Agriculture to create an Office of Water Coordination and to designate the bureaus and positions that report to that office regarding water policy and water issues that affect agriculture and are within DACS' jurisdiction. That year, DACS established the Office of Agricultural Water Policy (OAWP). It facilitated communication and coordination among federal, state, and local governmental agencies, environmental representatives, and the agriculture industry on agricultural water resource issues. A primary function of the OAWP was to develop and assist with the implementation of best management practices in order for agricultural producers to meet their obligation under the Florida Watershed Restoration Act. The producers were required to reduce agricultural pollutant loadings to impaired waters within a basin for which DEP had adopted a Basin Management Action Plan. The OAWP also facilitated and assisted in the development of other watershed protection plans throughout the state, including the Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie Watershed, and Caloosahatchee Watershed protection plans, among others. The OAWP was also very involved in Everglades restoration efforts and in other federal matters, such as the discussion/debate over U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) numeric nutrient criteria for Florida.⁸

The State Energy Office, within the Governor's Office, was originally created and organized on July 1, 1975, by the Florida Legislature. Since 1975, the Energy Office has been housed in several state agencies, including the Department of Administration, the Department of Community Affairs, DEP and the Executive Office of the Governor. In the mid 2000s, the state began to focus more on energy issues and on how to increase the state's energy independence, decrease dependence on foreign oil and create a clean energy economy. To do this, the Legislature and the Governor's office created two separate bodies to advise them on these issues and to develop a plan to implement any recommended policy actions. In 2006, the Florida Energy Commission was created by the Florida Energy Act, and the following year, the Governor created the Governor's Action Team on Energy and Climate Change. As a result of the Florida Energy Commission and Governor's Action Team recommendations, the 2008 Legislature created the Florida Energy and Climate Commission and consolidated staff from three different agencies to create the Governor's Energy Office housed in the Executive Office of the Governor.⁹

The 2011 Legislature moved the state's energy office from the Executive Office of the Governor to DACS and created the Office of Energy and Water. To facilitate an expanded energy focus within DACS, a separate Office of Energy will be established and this CS will change the name of the Office of Energy and Water to the Office of Agricultural Water Policy.

Plant Industry Technical Council

The Plant Industry Technical Council is an advisory committee that was created by the Legislature in 1959. Appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture, the council is composed of

⁸ Analysis, Senate Bill 2076, 2011 Legislative Session.

⁹ DACS, *Agency Summary, Governor's Energy Office & Florida Energy & Climate Commission*, available at http://www.freshfromflorida.com/offices/energy/docs/meetings/01142011_FECC_GEO_Agency_Summary.pdf (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

industry representatives who consult with and advise the Commission and the director of the Division of Plant Industry (division) about policies and issues related to their respective industries.¹⁰ According to DACS, the council has met sporadically over the last decade and in the past few years has not been as effective at addressing plant industry-related issues. The division has had better success in dealing with issues by using working groups or task forces that are commodity based or specific to a given issue. Recently, the division has been working with the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection Quarantine Program and with the United States Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection Modernization Program through a recently established Florida Partnership Council. The new council meets quarterly, and once annually it brings in industry stakeholders for a "State of the State" meeting to seek input and review of overall plant protection programs in Florida. DACS is therefore recommending that the Plant Industry Technical Council be eliminated.

Aquatic Plant Nursery Registration

The water hyacinth is a floating plant that often jams rivers and lakes with uncounted thousands of tons of floating plant matter.¹¹ Section 581.145, F.S., authorizes DACS to issue, when requested, a permit to an aquaculture producer to export water hyacinths to countries other than the United States and only when the hyacinths are cultivated in a nursery for the sole purpose of exportation and the aquaculture activity has been certified by the department. An aquaculture producer is forbidden from shipping water hyacinths to another country under the permit for the purpose of importing the hyacinths back into the United States. Drop shipments cannot be made to any destination within the United States. This provision does not restrict or interfere with the DEP's efforts, or those of any other agency or local government responsible for the management of noxious aquatic plants, to control or eradicate noxious non-nursery aquatic plants, including water hyacinths. It is also not a consideration in the approval or the release of biological control agents for water hyacinths or any other noxious aquatic plants.

Even though the water hyacinth is not on the United States Department of Agriculture's Noxious Plant List, Florida aquatic plant producers have been prohibited from distributing these products through interstate commerce. This puts Florida aquatic plant producers at a competitive disadvantage in the United States marketplace.

Division of Agricultural Environmental Services Technical Councils

Currently, within DACS there are three separate advisory councils that mitigate issues regarding fertilizer, seeds, and commercial feed. While each council addresses issues unique to its particular area, overlap occurs due to the nature of the three topics. All of the various industry groups have agreed to combine the three separate councils into one all-encompassing council. This CS creates the Agricultural Feed, Seed and Fertilizer Advisory Council, which will replace the following three councils:

- **Commercial Feed Technical Council** – This council considers and studies all issues involving commercial feed in Florida and reviews and makes recommendations to DACS on

¹⁰ University of Florida, *Division of Plant Industry, 39th Biennial Report* (1990-1992), available at <http://ufdc.ufl.edu/UF00075925/00003> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

¹¹ University of Florida, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, *Home*, <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

related matters. The council is composed of 13 members representing various interests of the feed industry.

- **Seed Technical Council** - This council considers and studies all issues involving seed, seedlings, vegetative propagating materials and plants and reviews and makes recommendations to DACS on related matters. The council is composed of 11 members representing various interest of the seed industry.
- **Commercial Fertilizer Technical Council** - This council considers and studies all issues involving commercial fertilizer in Florida and reviews and makes recommendations to DACS on related matters. The council is composed of 13 members of the fertilizer industry.

Commercial Feed Master Registration

The Division of Agricultural Environmental Services regulates animal feeds, including pet foods, through the inspection of production and distribution establishments and laboratory analysis of samples. Section 580.041, F.S., requires distributors of commercial feed in the state to obtain a master registration each year before distributing their brand. Distributors must consent to comply with provisions of ch. 580, F.S., as well as applicable rules. Registration forms must be accompanied by a fee based on tons of feed distributed in the state during the previous year. The terms of compliance for registration include:

- Submitting samples of manufactured feed for testing by laboratories certified by DACS or obtaining an exemption from testing, as provided by ch. 580, F.S.
- Maintaining a bookkeeping system and records that allow DACS to verify the accuracy of the reported tonnage of feed distributed in the state.
- Allowing DACS to examine pertinent records.

DACS has statutory authority to assess penalties for violations of ch. 580, F.S., as well as to refuse, suspend, or cancel the master registration of a distributor who violates or fails to comply with the provisions of ch. 580, F.S.

DACS has indicated that because the reporting of the tonnage of feed distributed in the state is provided on a voluntary basis, many registrants defer or refuse to provide the information, while other registrants incur the costs of providing this information. Because the registration cost is based on the tons of feed distributed in the state, the failure to report the tonnage presents a problem when assessing the registration fee.

Additionally, current law requires registrants to have feed samples and ingredients testing at a frequency determined by rule.¹² The rule states that testing is based on the quantity and type of feed distributed. Without proper reporting, it is impossible for DACS to determine if registrants are in compliance with statutory requirements.

Commercial Feed Penalties Payable to Consumers

When ch. 580, F.S., was revised in 1995, the changes failed to include the authority for DACS to impose and recover monetary penalties for commercial feed found to be deficient or excessive in nutrients by the department's Certified Feed Laboratories program. Current statutory language

¹² Rule 5E-3.003, F.A.C.

provides only for recovery of deficiency penalty payments by the end-use consumer and only through formal legal action. No provision has been made for assessment or recovery of penalties by the state in instances where no consumer is associated with the deficient feed product.

Agricultural Marketing Orders

There are thousands of small agricultural producers in Florida who depend on scientific research and marketing campaigns to grow and market their crops. Most cannot afford to own and operate their own laboratories and marketing firms, or maintain the staff it would take to run them. However, these small producers sometimes formally organize to establish a marketing order and vote to contribute small, set amounts into a “pot” for such activities. Then they use the pot of money to contract with professional firms that specialize in research and marketing.¹³

Marketing orders are instrumentalities issued by DACS and designed to regulate the distribution and handling of agricultural products in intrastate commerce. Section 573.118, F.S., provides for marketing orders to become effective when consented to by a majority of producers or handlers of such commodities in the state. To establish a marketing order, at least 10 percent of the affected producers must petition DACS to give notice of a public hearing regarding a proposed marketing order. Once the notice has been filed and the hearing has been conducted, DACS may issue the marketing order if it determines the order will accomplish certain objectives prescribed by statute.¹⁴ Prior to a marketing order being issued, the petitioners must deposit such monies with DACS to defray the cost of implementing the marketing order. Thereafter, persons directly affected by the marketing order shall pay such amounts as DACS deems necessary to cover the administration and enforcement of the marketing order. On an annual basis, DACS must arrange for an audit of the books and accounts of the marketing order by a certified public accountant (CPA). The CPA must notify DACS and all parties covered by the marketing order of the results no later than 30 days following the audit.

Fertilizer Tonnage Fee

Between 1985 and 1992, DACS and DEP jointly conducted surveys of drinking water wells in predominantly agricultural regions of Florida. Survey results from limited sampling in 38 Florida counties showed elevated levels of nitrate in drinking water wells in 36 of the 38 counties tested. Of those 36 counties, 13 had at least one site with nitrate levels above the federal drinking water standard of 10 parts per million (ppm) set by the EPA.

Based on these findings, DACS initiated development of a comprehensive program to protect Florida’s water resources while maintaining the state’s large agricultural industry. DACS, in partnership with DEP, the Florida Farm Bureau, the Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, the Florida Fertilizer and Agrichemical Association, and other groups, developed a voluntary, incentive-based program to develop individual practices or combinations of practices to specify how nitrogen-based fertilizers are to be used. Two categories of practices were created:

- Interim Measures (IMs) – Based on currently available knowledge, IMs were intended to provide a reasonable expectation of reducing nitrate levels entering ground water.

¹³ DACS, *State Agricultural Marketing Orders*, <http://www.florida-agriculture.com/marketingorders.htm> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

¹⁴ Section 573.108, F.S.

- Best Management Practices (BMPs) – BMPs are determined by research or field testing at representative sites to be the most effective and practicable methods of fertilization that meets crop needs and nitrate groundwater quality standards.

To fund the development of research-based BMPs and IMs, the Legislature authorized DACS to impose supplemental fees on users of all fertilizer materials containing nitrogen to be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund. The authorization was granted through adoption of s. 576.045, F.S. Subsection (2) of s. 576.045, F.S., imposes the following fees which expire on December 31, 2012:

- \$100 for each license to distribute fertilizer.
- \$100 for each of the first five specialty fertilizer registrations and \$25 for each registration after the first five.
- 50 cents per ton for bulk fertilizer sold in Florida which contains nitrogen or phosphorus.¹⁵

The revenue from the collection of the tonnage fee on fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus is used for the development and implementation of agricultural BMPs and nutrient abatement and research efforts. The provisions of this program are set to expire on December 31, 2012, and December 31, 2017, respectively. Failing to extend these expiration dates would create a shortfall of approximately \$1 million annually and would impair efforts to protect and restore water quality.

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Soil and water conservation districts (districts) are governmental subdivisions of the state that coordinate with federal, state, regional, and other local partners to develop and implement soil and water conservation practices on private lands. In 1935, the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service was established by Congress to assist individuals, groups, and units of government with natural resources conservation. Florida's 62 districts were established in 1937 under ch. 582, F.S., based on that federal legislation. Soil and water conservation districts were originally organized, for the most part, within county boundaries by landowner petition based on a need for soil and water conservation and in the interest of public health, safety, and welfare. The governing body of a district consists of five elected supervisors.

Section 582.29, F.S., provides for agencies of the state that have jurisdiction over the administration of any state-owned lands, and any county, or other governmental subdivision of the state that has jurisdiction over any county-owned or other publicly owned land, lying within the boundaries of any district must cooperate to the fullest extent with the supervisors of the district in effecting the programs and operations undertaken by the supervisors under the provisions of ch. 582, F.S.

The supervisors of the districts are given free access to enter and perform work upon such publicly-owned lands. The provisions of land use regulations adopted must be in all respects observed by the agencies administering such publicly-owned lands. DACS' Office of Agricultural Water Policy has field staff located around the state who work directly with the

¹⁵ Analysis, Senate Bill 1644, 2003 Legislative Session.

districts as their DACS liaisons. DACS coordinates with the districts on programs concerning best management practices implementation, cost share programs, mobile irrigation labs, and public land management.

Currently, districts do not have the authority to work across district lines to assist landowners whose property falls outside a district boundary or in an area that doesn't have an active district. DACS has indicated that the legislative changes in this bill will enable the districts to work across district lines, work with landowners whose property falls outside of a district boundary or in areas that don't have an active a district in order to maximize the utilization of water conservation devices, systems and techniques.¹⁶

Section 582.30, F.S., provides that any time after five years from the organization of a district under ch. 582, F.S., any 10 percent of owners of land lying within the boundaries of such district may file a petition with DACS asking that the operations of the district be terminated and the existence of the district discontinued. Upon petition, DACS may conduct public meetings and hearings as necessary to assist in the consideration of termination of the district. Within 60 days after receiving the petition, DACS must give due notice of holding a referendum, as well as supervising and issuing regulations to govern the referendum. The ballot must be clearly marked with the propositions "For terminating the existence of the district" and "Against terminating the existence of the district" and provide a square before each proposition with a direction to insert an "x" mark in the square before one or the other of the propositions as the voter so chooses. All owners of land lying within the boundaries of the district are eligible to vote in such a referendum. If the referendum has been duly noticed and fairly conducted, no informalities relating to the conduct of the referendum can invalidate the referendum or its results. If two-thirds or more of the qualified voters in the referendum have voted for the discontinuance of the district, DACS must certify to the supervisors of the district the result of the referendum and that the continued operation of the district is not administratively practicable or feasible.

Alternatively, upon review and recommendation of the Soil and Water Conservation Council regarding the continued viability of the district, the Commissioner of Agriculture may dissolve or discontinue a district if the commissioner certifies that the continued operation of the district is not administratively practicable or feasible. If a district has failed to comply with any of the audit and financial reporting requirements of ch. 189, F.S., the commissioner, after review and confirmation by DACS' inspector general, may certify dissolution or discontinuance of the district without prior review and recommendation of the Soil and Water Conservation Council. Notice of the proposed certification of dissolution or discontinuance must be published once a week for two weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the county or counties where the district is located. The notice must state the district's name, a general description of the territory included in the district, and requires that objections to the proposed dissolution or any claims against assets of the district must be filed with DACS no later than 60 days following the date of last publication.

Section 582.31, F.S., provides for a district to terminate the affairs of the district, upon receipt from the department of a certification that the department has found that the continued operation

¹⁶ DACS, Office of Agricultural Water Policy, *Florida Soil and Water Conservation Districts*, <http://www.floridaagwaterpolicy.com/Fswcd.html> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

of the district is not administratively practicable and feasible. The supervisors of the district must dispose of all district property at a public auction and pay over the proceeds of the sale to the State Treasury, which is placed to the credit of the department to be used to liquidate any legal obligations of the district at the time of its termination. The supervisors must file an application with the Department of State for the discontinuance of the district, and must include with the application the DACS certificate setting forth the determination the continued operation of the district is not administratively practicable and feasible. The application must reiterate that the property has been disposed of and the proceeds paid over to the State Treasury. A full accounting of the properties and the proceeds of the sale must be included in the application. The Department of State must then issue to the supervisors of the district a certificate of dissolution and record the certificate in the appropriate book of record.

Section 582.32, F.S., provides that once a certificate of dissolution has been issued, all land use regulations adopted and in force within the district are no longer valid. Contracts entered into by the district or supervisors of the district remain in effect for the period provided for in the contract, with DACS being substituted for the district or supervisors of the district as party to the contract. DACS shall be entitled to all benefits and subject to all liabilities under such contracts and have the same right and liability to perform, to require performance, and to modify or terminate such contracts by mutual consent as the district or supervisors of the district would have had. The dissolution of the district does not affect the lien of any judgment entered under the provisions of ch. 582, F.S., nor the pendency of any action instituted under the provisions of ch. 582, F.S. DACS can succeed to all the rights and obligations of the district or the supervisors of the district as to such liens and actions. DACS is not required to entertain petitions for the discontinuance of any district or conduct referenda upon such petitions in accordance with the provisions of ch. 582, F.S., more often than once in 5 years. If no statutory provisions control the dissolution of a special district, s. 189.4045(2), F.S., provides that the local general-purpose government assumes all assets and liabilities of the dissolved district.

Soil and Water Conservation Council

Section 582.06, F.S., creates the Soil and Water Conservation Council (council) within DACS, which is composed of 23 members. Eleven of the members are persons who have been involved in the practice of soil or water conservation, or in the development or implementation of interim measures or best management practices related to soil or water conservation. These eleven members must also be engaged in agriculture or an occupation related to the agricultural industry for at least five years at the time of their appointment. The remaining twelve members must include one representative each from DEP, the five water management districts (WMDs), the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at the University of Florida, the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Florida Association of Counties, and the Florida League of Cities and two representatives of environmental interests.

The CS reduces the membership of the council from 23 members to 7 members, all of whom must be familiar with agricultural production and the challenges landowners face. DACS believes this change will enable members to more narrowly focus their efforts and to communicate more specifically with the Commissioner of Agriculture.

Brucellosis Vaccinations

Bovine brucellosis is a cattle disease that is near eradication in the United States after more than 50 years of efforts by state departments of agriculture, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the cattle industry. The Cooperative State-Federal Brucellosis Eradication Program is administered under a Memorandum of Understanding between the appropriate agency in each of the states and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This program includes all of the activities associated with detecting, controlling, and eliminating brucellosis from domestic livestock in the U.S. One of the long term responsibilities of DACS' Division of Animal Industry has been the administration of Florida's Brucellosis Eradication Program. Each owner of a herd of cattle in the state must enroll the herd in the program to determine whether the herd is infected with brucellosis.

Florida was declared "Brucellosis Class Free" in 2001 and, except for specific geographic regions surrounding Yellowstone National Park, the remainder of the United States is also "Brucellosis Class Free." Although calfhood vaccination continues on a voluntary basis by some Florida producers, vaccine is no longer provided at state expense. Whole-herd vaccination is no longer needed or available to producers.¹⁷

Forest Protection

The Florida Forest Service (FFS) has the primary responsibility for prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires wherever they may occur. It controls and authorizes open burning for the maintenance and continuous clearing of agricultural land. In 2005 and 2006, the FFS in cooperation with the University of Florida Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences developed a certification program for Florida Pile Burners to raise the overall quality of the open burning program in Florida. In 2009, DACS amended the open burning rules and regulations to include the pile burner certification program. Rule 5I-2, Florida Administrative Code, outlines the steps necessary to become certified and the requirements to keep that certification. A burn permit must be obtained for burns relating to agriculture, silviculture and rural land clearing. Currently, there is some confusion regarding where persons wishing to burn for agricultural and silvicultural reasons need to acquire a burning authorization. The FFS does not charge a fee for these authorizations, but other governmental agencies do. Authorizing the FFS to have sole authority to authorize silviculture and agriculture open burning would eliminate double permitting by any other entity of the state and eliminate that cost to the public.

Tree Planting Programs

Section 589.277, F.S., authorizes the FFS to administer federal state and privately sponsored tree-planting programs to assist private rural landowners and urban communities. Contributions from governmental and private sources may be deposited into the Federal Grants Trust Fund. The FFS has the authority to develop and implement guidelines and procedures to utilize the financial resources of the fund for urban and rural reforestation. Grants to municipalities, counties, nonprofit organizations, and qualifying private landowners may be made from allocated monies for the purpose of purchasing, planting, and maintaining native tree species.

¹⁷ Analysis, Senate Bill 22-C, 2008 Legislative Session.

The FFS must work with the Department of Education to develop programs to teach the importance of trees in the urban, rural and global environment.

While current statutory language states that both governmental and private contributions may be deposited into the Federal Grants Trust Fund, the federal government does not allow private funds to be deposited into this trust fund. Therefore, the FFS cannot accept funds from a non-federal source.

Creation of Certain State Forests

The 2011 Legislature directed the Florida Forest Service to designate areas of state forests as “Wounded Warrior Special Hunt Areas” to honor wounded veterans and service members, and to provide outdoor recreational opportunities for eligible veterans and service members.¹⁸

Admittance to these areas is limited to:

- persons who are active duty members of any branch of the United States Armed Forces and who have a combat-related injury; or
- veterans who served during a period of wartime service or peacetime service and have a service-connected disability or were discharged from military service because of a disability acquired or aggravated while serving on active duty.

This bill renames the “Wounded Warrior Special Hunt Area” as the “Operation Outdoor Freedom Special Hunt Area” because it has come to the attention of DACS that another organization is using the term “Wounded Warrior.”

Aquaculture Certificate of Registration

Any person engaging in aquaculture must be certified by DACS and pay an annual registration fee of \$100. This would include all schools with aquaculture education programs. DACS believes that exposure to its aquaculture certification program helps to educate the next generation of Floridians on the benefits of aquaculture. This includes potential career paths, proper handling of non-native aquatic species and showing hands-on practical educational opportunities. Increasing outreach and educational efforts to schools has been a priority of the Aquaculture Review Council. There are approximately 15 programs in schools that are currently certified.

Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council

The Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council was created in 1984 to facilitate and coordinate much needed interagency communication during the time that aquaculture regulations were divided among many different state agencies. With the consolidation of regulations via the Aquaculture Certification program and development of Aquaculture Best Management Practices, there is no longer the compelling need for an annual meeting and associated annual report of various state agencies to discuss issues of concern. Regular communication between the respective state agencies, usually between DACS and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, readily takes place now. In addition, several of the agencies originally designated

¹⁸ CS/HB 663, 2011 Legislative Session.

as members of the council either no longer exist or no longer have the statutory responsibilities they had when the council was created including the Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development, the Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of Labor and Employment Security.

Federal Packers and Stockyard Act

The federal Packers and Stockyards Act (PSA) requires certain regulated entities to obtain a bond before the U.S. Department of Agriculture will allow them to do business. The PSA bond is a financial instrument a packer obtains from a private bond company stating the bond company will meet the packer's financial obligations to pay sellers of livestock if the packer is unable to do so.

In order to meet the bonding requirements of PSA, a dealer may:

- purchase a surety bond from an insurance company or other financial institution that issues surety bonds. The issuing company will act as trustee on the surety bond;
- receive an irrevocable letter of credit from a bank that would be held in trust for the benefit of sellers that might need to file a claim against the dealer for failure to pay; or
- purchase a certificate of deposit from a financial institution to be held in trust for the benefit of sellers that might need to file a claim against the dealer for failure to pay.

In the instance of a surety bond purchased from an insurance company, generally the insurance company would act as trustee in the event a claim was filed against the bond. When an irrevocable letter of credit or certificate of deposit is issued to meet the bonding requirements of the PSA, a trust agreement must be executed placing the irrevocable letter of credit or certificate of deposit in trust for the benefit of sellers that might need to file a claim against the dealer for failure to pay. A trustee must be named to administer the settlement of claims.¹⁹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 20.14, F.S., to establish the Division of Food, Nutrition and Wellness within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). This new division will administer the school food and nutrition programs that were transferred to DACS during the 2011 Legislative Session.

Section 2 amends s. 253.002, F.S., to authorize DACS to act as agent to the Board of Trustees for the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for all matters concerning conservation easements that are acquired under the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program.

Section 3 amends s. 379.2523, F.S., to delete obsolete references to the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council which is abolished in section 49 of this CS.

¹⁹ Email from Grace Lovett, Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs, DACS (Feb. 6, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

Section 4 amends s. 379.2524, F.S., to delete provisions that prohibit compensation and authorize members of the Sturgeon Production Working Group to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses incurred while participating in business involving the group.

Section 5 amends s. 388.161, F.S., to remove obsolete language that refers to pesticidal practices that are no longer legal. It revises the products that mosquito control districts are authorized to use to control mosquito breeding.

Section 6 amends s. 388.201, F.S., to change the date from September 15 to September 30 for mosquito districts to submit their certified budgets to DACS.

Section 7 amends s. 388.323, F.S., to eliminate the requirement that mosquito control programs offer surplus property to all local governments or private nonprofit agencies before disposing of the property.

Section 8 repeals s. 388.42, F.S., relating to the John A. Mulrennan, Sr., Arthropod Research Laboratory, which has been closed by the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University.

Section 9 amends s. 388.46, F.S., to remove the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University from membership of the Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control. It also removes references of reporting requirements to the Florida Coastal Management Program Interagency Management Committees. This section specifies that the Subcommittee on Managed Marshes take into account the mosquito control source reduction implications and natural resource interests when providing technical assistance and guidance on saltmarsh management plans and research proposals.

Section 10 amends s. 493.6104, F.S., to delete provisions that prohibit compensation and authorize members of the Private Investigation, Recovery, and Security Advisory Council to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses incurred while participating in business involving the council.

Section 11 amends s. 500.09, F.S., to authorize DACS to adopt rules to incorporate by reference the current federal model Food Code issued by the Food and Drug Administration and Public Health Service of the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Section 12 amends s. 500.147, F.S., to eliminate a food safety pilot program for the inspection of food establishments and vehicles which was implemented by DACS in 1997. There has been no recorded participation in this program since 2004.

Section 13 amends s. 502.014, F.S., to delete provisions relating to a permitting program for persons who test milk or milk products for fat content.

Section 14 amends s. 502.053, F.S., to delete duplicative permitting requirements for milkfat testers. The USDA Milk Marketing Administration provides these same functions. It also deletes DACS' authority to charge applicants a fee not to exceed \$125 for a milkfat tester's license.

Section 15 amends s. 570.0705, F.S., to prohibit members of advisory bodies from receiving per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses under certain circumstances. It deletes a provision that prohibits members from receiving compensation for their services.

Section 16 repeals s. 570.071, F.S., relating to the Florida Agricultural Exposition in Indiantown, Florida, which was closed in 2008.

Section 17 amends s. 570.074, F.S., to update the name of the Office of Energy and Water to the Office of Agricultural Water Policy and to revise the jurisdiction of the office.

Section 18 amends s. 570.18, F.S., to correct a cross-reference.

Section 19 repeals s. 570.29, F.S., relating to a duplicative divisions list included in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The list is contained in s. 20.14, F.S.

Section 20 repeals s. 570.34, F.S., to abolish the Plant Industry Technical Council.

Section 21 creates s. 570.451, F.S., to establish the Agricultural Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer Advisory Council within DACS. The council will be composed of 15 members who represent DACS, IFAS, and representatives of specified industries. Members will be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture for a term of up to four years. The CS specifies the powers and duties of the council, which include organization, frequency of meetings, procedures and recordkeeping. The council must also review relevant documents and provide DACS with advice and recommendations on issues concerning the regulation of agricultural feed, seed, and fertilizer.

Section 22 amends s. 570.53, F.S., to remove a cross-reference.

Section 23 amends s. 570.54, F.S., to remove a cross-reference.

Section 24 amends s. 573.112, F.S., to provide for members of the Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc. (Foundation), to be reimbursed by the foundation for per diem and travel expenses incurred while serving in an advisory capacity to DACS. In the 2011 Session, payment of travel expenses and per diem was eliminated for the Foundation, as well as other councils and working groups, to reduce government expenses. The Foundation exists as a Florida not-for-profit corporation, organized as a Direct Support Organization certified by the University of Florida's board of trustees, and operating for the benefit of the citrus industry and the state of Florida.²⁰ DACS has indicated that since the Foundation is supported by private sources, its members should have kept the authority to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses incurred while participating in business involving the Foundation.

Section 25 amends s. 573.118, F.S., to delete a requirement for DACS to cause an annual audit, by a certified public accountant, of collections and expenditures from agricultural commodity marketing order assessments. The CS would require specific procedures to maintain marketing

²⁰ Florida Citrus Mutual, *Florida Citrus Research and Development Foundation Inc.*, available at <http://www.flcitrusmutual.com/files/9979ddcb-1713-47bb-8.pdf> (last visited Feb. 1, 2012).

order records within the state's accounting system. The CS would also require a review of accounts, if requested by an advisory council, which will reduce the administrative burden that mostly affects citrus, peanut, and tobacco marketing orders.

Section 26 amends s. 576.045, F.S., to extend the expiration date for subsections (1), (2), (3), (4), and (6) of s. 576.045, F.S. from December 31, 2012, to December 31, 2022. It also extends the expiration date for subsections (5) and (7) of s. 576.045, F.S., from December 31, 2017, to December 31, 2027. This change continues current revenue from the collection of a tonnage fee on fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorus that is sold in this state.

Section 27 amends s. 576.071, F.S., to remove a reference to the Fertilizer Technical Council.

Section 28 repeals s. 576.091, F.S., to eliminate the Fertilizer Technical Council.

Section 29 repeals s. 578.30, F.S., to eliminate the Seed Technical Council.

Section 30 amends s. 580.041, F.S., to clarify that commercial feed distributors must maintain records and a bookkeeping system that will allow DACS to track the type and tonnage of commercial feed sold in Florida. It requires quarterly reporting of the number of tons of feed distributed on forms furnished by DACS. It also provides penalties for violations by distributors of commercial feed.

Section 31 amends s. 580.131, F.S., to revise requirements for the assessment of penalties and enforcement of violations by manufacturers and distributors of commercial feed or feedstuff. It authorizes DACS to assess penalties. It requires registered distributors of commercial feed to pay penalties to consumers within sixty days after DACS notifies a registrant in writing of any penalty. It imposes additional penalties for nonpayment. It provides for the deposit and use of proceeds from any penalties paid to DACS if the consumer cannot be identified.

Section 32 repeals s. 580.151, F.S., to eliminate the Commercial Feed Technical Council.

Section 33 amends s. 581.011, F.S., to remove a definition for "technical council," referring to the Plant Industry Technical Council, to conform to the repeal of the council in Section 21 of the bill.

Section 34 amends s. 581.145, F.S., to revise requirements for the issuance of permits to aquaculture producers for the transport and sale of water hyacinths to other states and countries.

Section 35 amends s. 582.06, F.S., to revise requirements for the composition and appointment of members of the Soil and Water Conservation Council. It reduces the number of council members from 23 to 7, who are all appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture. Included in this reduction are members from DEP, the five WMDs, IFAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Florida Association of Counties, the Florida League of Cities and two members representing environmental interests. It deletes provisions that authorize members of the council to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses incurred while participating in business involving the council.

Section 36 amends s. 582.20, F.S., to authorize Soil and Water Conservation Districts (districts) to work across district boundaries, or on lands where no district exists, or on lands within another district with the concurrence of such district in order to maximize the utilization of water conservation devices, systems and techniques.

Section 37 amends s. 582.29, F.S., to revise the jurisdiction of districts to include territory contiguous to a district's boundaries.

Section 38 amends s. 582.30, F.S., to revise requirements and procedures for the dissolution or discontinuance of a district.

Section 39 amends s. 582.31, F.S., to revise requirements for payment of the proceeds from the sale of property of a dissolving district to the State Treasury. It clarifies that proceeds from public auction be placed to the credit of the district to provide for any legal obligations.

Section 40 amends s. 582.32, F.S., to remove DACS as the agency responsible for contracts, assets and liabilities of a dissolved soil and water conservation district. The CS transfers responsibility from DACS to local general-purpose governments, pursuant to s. 189.4045(2), F.S.

Section 41 repeals s. 585.155, F.S., relating to the inspection and vaccination of cattle for brucellosis, since Florida was declared free of bovine brucellosis in 2001.

Section 42 repeals s. 589.03, F.S., to delete provisions that authorize members of the Florida Forestry Council to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses incurred while participating in business involving the council.

Section 43 amends s. 589.19, F.S., to rename the "Wounded Warrior Special Hunt Area" of the state forests as an "Operation Outdoor Freedom Special Hunt Area." It also conforms obsolete references to the former Division of Forestry, now the Florida Forest Service.

Section 44 amends s. 589.277, F.S., to allow contributions from governmental and private sources for tree planting programs to be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund as well as the Federal Grants Trust Fund. It also conforms obsolete references to the former Division of Forestry.

Section 45 amends s. 590.02, F.S., to preempt state and local government agencies, other than the Florida Forest Service, from enforcing regulations concerning broadcast burning or agricultural or silvicultural pile burning except under certain circumstances. It also conforms obsolete references to the former Division of Forestry.

Section 46 amends s. 597.0021, F.S., to remove a reference to the obsolete Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council.

Section 47 amends s. 597.003, F.S., to remove references to the obsolete Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council.

Section 48 amends s. 597.004, F.S., to provide an annual registration fee waiver to all elementary, middle, high school, and vocational schools that participate in the aquaculture certification program.

Section 49 amends s. 597.005, F.S., to remove references to the obsolete Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council. It also decreases the membership of the Aquaculture Review Council, since there will no longer be a member of the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council to serve on the council.

Section 50 repeals s. 597.006, F.S., to eliminate the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council.

Section 51 amends s. 604.21, F.S., to authorize the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Commissioner's designee, to act as a trustee for a bond or security in compliance with the PSA. The CS also authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture to enter into agreements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to implement the PSA.

Section 52 amends s. 616.252, F.S., to provide members of the Florida State Fair Authority with reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses incurred while participating in business involving the authority.

Section 53 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

See Government Sector Impact section.

B. Private Sector Impact:

DACS estimates that:

- Amending s. 253.002, F.S., to authorize DACS to perform all staff duties and functions in regards to the Rural and Family Lands Protection Program, will result in

a decrease in the time it take landowners to enter into an easement agreement with the state.

- Amending s. 580.131, F.S., will allow persons who have purchased commercial feed that has been distributed in violation of ch. 580, F.S., to seek administrative action, as well as legal action, to recover penalties.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Revenues

DACS estimates that there will be:

- A reduction of approximately \$1,500-\$2,000 annually in non-recurring revenues from the waiver of the aquaculture certification fee for schools.
- An increase of approximately \$3,600 annually in recurring revenues as a result of feed distributors being required to report the tons of feed distributed in the state.
- A reduction of approximately \$4,700 annually in recurring revenues as a result of the elimination of the milkfat tester permits.

Expenditures

DACS estimates that there will be a reduction of approximately \$11,300 annually in recurring expenditures if it is not required to pay per diem and travel expenses for the Private Investigation, Recovery and Security Advisory Council.

Other Fiscal Comments

- Amending s. 388.201, F.S., will allow local governments additional time to prepare budget information regarding arthropod control before it must be submitted to DACS for review.
- Amending s. 388.323, F.S., will delete a requirement for local governments to offer mosquito control equipment to governmental units or private non-profit agencies that most likely would have no use for it.
- Amending s. 573.118, F.S., will delete a requirement that audits of marketing order accounts to be performed by a certified public accountant, resulting in a reduced administrative burden and saving the cost of an expensive audit.
- Amending s. 576.045, F.S., will extend the expiration dates for the fertilizer tonnage fee, allowing DACS to continue to collect approximately \$1 million annually that is used towards the development of best management practices and nutrient pollution abatement efforts.
- Amending s. 582.31, F.S., will remove DACS from responsibility for any outstanding contracts upon dissolution of a soil and water conservation district.
- Amending s. 590.02, F.S., will allow DACS to receive private funds to administer tree-planting programs.
- Amending s. 597.004, F.S., may cause DACS to lose approximately \$2,000 annually in aquaculture registration fees.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:

- Clarifies when a soil and water conservation district is dissolved all assets and liabilities transfer to the local general-purpose government pursuant to s. 189.4045(2), F.S.;
- Authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture, or the Commissioner's designee, to act as a trustee for a bond or security in compliance with the PSA; and
- Authorizes the Commissioner of Agriculture to enter into agreements with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to implement the PSA.

CS by Agriculture Committee on January 23, 2012:

CS for Senate Bill 1254 is different from Senate Bill 1254 in that it:

- Deletes Section 15 of Senate Bill 1254 which provides direct statutory authority to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to distribute grants funds to farmers.

B. Amendments:

None.



568672

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
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The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Sobel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 1097 and 1098
insert:

Section 40. Subsection (1) of section 582.32, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:

582.32 Continuance of existing contracts, etc.—

(1) Upon issuance of a certificate of dissolution, s.
189.4045(2) applies, and all land use regulations theretofore
adopted and in force within such districts shall be of no
further force and effect. ~~All contracts theretofore entered
into, to which the district or supervisors are parties, shall~~



568672

13 ~~remain in force and effect for the period provided in such~~
14 ~~contracts. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services~~
15 ~~shall be substituted for the district or supervisors as party to~~
16 ~~such contracts. The department shall be entitled to all benefits~~
17 ~~and subject to all liabilities under such contracts and shall~~
18 ~~have the same right and liability to perform, to require~~
19 ~~performance, and to modify or terminate such contracts by mutual~~
20 ~~consent or otherwise, as the supervisors of the district would~~
21 ~~have had. Such dissolution shall not affect the lien of any~~
22 ~~judgment entered under the provisions of this chapter, nor the~~
23 ~~pendency of any action instituted under the provisions of this~~
24 ~~chapter, and the department shall succeed to all the rights and~~
25 ~~obligations of the district or supervisors as to such liens and~~
26 ~~actions.~~

27
28 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

29 And the title is amended as follows:

30 Delete line 109

31 and insert:

32 Treasury; amending s. 582.32, F.S.; revising the
33 procedures on continuing existing contracts; repealing
34 s. 585.155, F.S., relating to the



266358

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
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The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Sobel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 1419 and 1420
insert:

Section 50. Subsection (12) is added to section 604.21,
Florida Statutes, to read:

604.21 Complaint; investigation; hearing.—

(12) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the
Commissioner of Agriculture or the commissioner's authorized
designee may act as trustee on any bond or other form of
security posted with the United States Department of Agriculture
in compliance with the Packers and Stockyards Act. The



266358

13 Commissioner of Agriculture may enter into agreements with the
14 United States Department of Agriculture as necessary to
15 implement the Packers and Stockyards Act.
16

17 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

18 And the title is amended as follows:

19 Between lines 140 and 141

20 insert:

21 s. 604.21, F.S.; authorizing the Commissioner of
22 Agriculture to act as trustee on bonds posted by the
23 United States Department of Agriculture under certain
24 circumstances; authorizing the Commissioner of
25 Agriculture to enter into agreements with the United
26 States Department of Agriculture; amending

By the Committee on Agriculture; and Senator Siplin

575-02173-12

20121254c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Department of Agriculture and
3 Consumer Services; amending s. 20.14, F.S.;
4 establishing the Division of Food, Nutrition, and
5 Wellness within the department; amending s. 253.002,
6 F.S.; requiring the department to perform certain
7 staff duties and functions for the Board of Trustees
8 of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund related to
9 conservation easements; amending s. 379.2523, F.S.;
10 deleting references to the Aquaculture Interagency
11 Coordinating Council to conform to the repeal by the
12 act of provisions creating the council; amending s.
13 379.2524, F.S.; deleting provisions that prohibit
14 compensation and authorize per diem and travel
15 expenses for members of the Sturgeon Production
16 Working Group; amending s. 388.161, F.S.; revising the
17 substances that mosquito control districts are
18 authorized to use for controlling mosquito breeding;
19 amending s. 388.201, F.S.; revising the date by which
20 mosquito control districts must submit their certified
21 budgets for approval by the department; amending s.
22 388.323, F.S.; revising procedures for a county's or
23 mosquito control district's disposal of certain
24 surplus equipment; repealing s. 388.42, F.S., relating
25 to the John A. Mulrennan, Sr., Arthropod Research
26 Laboratory; amending s. 388.46, F.S.; revising the
27 membership and responsibilities of the Florida
28 Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control; revising the
29 duties of the council's Subcommittee on Managed

575-02173-12

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30 Marshes; amending s. 493.6104, F.S.; deleting
31 provisions that prohibit compensation and authorize
32 per diem and travel expenses for members of the
33 Private Investigation, Recovery, and Security Advisory
34 Council; amending s. 500.09, F.S.; authorizing the
35 department to adopt rules incorporating by reference
36 the federal model Food Code; amending ss. 500.147 and
37 502.014, F.S.; deleting provisions for a food safety
38 pilot program and a permitting program for persons who
39 test milk or milk products; amending s. 502.053, F.S.;
40 deleting requirements for milkfat tester licenses;
41 amending s. 570.0705, F.S.; prohibiting members of
42 certain advisory bodies from receiving per diem or
43 travel expenses except under certain circumstances;
44 deleting a provision that prohibits members from
45 receiving compensation for their services; repealing
46 s. 570.071, F.S., relating to the Florida Agricultural
47 Exposition and the receipt and expenditure of funds
48 for the exposition; amending s. 570.074, F.S.;
49 renaming and revising the policy jurisdiction of the
50 department's Office of Energy and Water; amending s.
51 570.18, F.S.; conforming cross-references; repealing
52 s. 570.29, F.S., relating to divisions of the
53 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
54 repealing s. 570.34, F.S., relating to the Plant
55 Industry Technical Council; creating s. 570.451, F.S.;
56 creating the Agricultural Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer
57 Advisory Council; providing for the council's powers
58 and duties and the appointment of council members;

575-02173-12

20121254c1

59 amending ss. 570.53 and 570.54, F.S.; conforming
60 cross-references; amending s. 573.112, F.S.; providing
61 that members of the Citrus Research and Development
62 Foundation's board of directors are entitled to
63 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses;
64 amending s. 573.118, F.S.; revising requirements for
65 the accounting and review of collections and
66 expenditures from agricultural commodity marketing
67 order assessments; deleting requirements for the audit
68 of such accounts; amending s. 576.045, F.S.; revising
69 the expiration dates of certain provisions regulating
70 fertilizers containing nitrogen or phosphorous;
71 amending s. 576.071, F.S.; deleting a reference to the
72 Fertilizer Technical Council to conform to the repeal
73 by the act of provisions creating the council;
74 repealing ss. 576.091 and 578.30, F.S., relating to
75 the Fertilizer Technical Council and Seed Technical
76 Council; amending s. 580.041, F.S.; revising the
77 reporting requirements and penalties for violations by
78 distributors of commercial feed; amending s. 580.131,
79 F.S.; revising requirements for the assessment of
80 penalties and enforcement of violations by
81 manufacturers and distributors of commercial feed or
82 feedstuff; authorizing the department to assess
83 penalties; requiring registered distributors of
84 commercial feed to pay such penalties to consumers
85 within a specified period; imposing additional
86 penalties for nonpayment; providing for the deposit
87 and use of certain funds paid to the department;

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88 repealing s. 580.151, F.S., relating to the Commercial
89 Feed Technical Council; amending s. 581.011, F.S.;
90 conforming provisions; amending s. 581.145, F.S.;
91 revising requirements for the issuance of permits to
92 aquaculture producers for the transport and sale of
93 water hyacinths to other states and countries;
94 amending s. 582.06, F.S.; revising requirements for
95 the composition and appointment of members of the Soil
96 and Water Conservation Council and the reimbursement
97 of members for per diem and travel expenses; amending
98 ss. 582.20 and 582.29, F.S.; revising the geographic
99 jurisdiction of soil and water conservation districts
100 to include certain territory outside of the districts'
101 boundaries; amending s. 582.30, F.S.; revising
102 requirements and procedures for the dissolution or
103 discontinuance of soil and water conservation
104 districts; revising notice requirements for such
105 proposed dissolution or discontinuance; amending s.
106 582.31, F.S.; revising requirements for payment of the
107 proceeds from the sale of property of a dissolving
108 soil and water conservation district to the State
109 Treasury; repealing s. 585.155, F.S., relating to the
110 inspection and vaccination of cattle for brucellosis;
111 repealing s. 589.03, F.S., relating to the
112 compensation and reimbursement for per diem and travel
113 expenses of members of the Florida Forestry Council;
114 amending s. 589.19, F.S.; renaming the "Wounded
115 Warrior Special Hunt Areas" of the state forests;
116 conforming obsolete references to the former Division

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117 of Forestry; amending s. 589.277, F.S.; revising
118 requirements for the deposit of contributions for tree
119 planting programs; conforming obsolete references to
120 the former Division of Forestry; amending s. 590.02,
121 F.S.; specifying that state and local government
122 agencies other than the Florida Forest Service may not
123 enforce regulations of broadcast burning or
124 agricultural and silvicultural pile burning except
125 under certain circumstances; conforming obsolete
126 references to the former Division of Forestry;
127 amending ss. 597.0021 and 597.003, F.S.; deleting
128 references to the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating
129 Council to conform to the repeal by the act of
130 provisions creating the council; amending s. 597.004,
131 F.S.; authorizing the waiver of aquaculture
132 registration fees for certain schools; amending s.
133 597.005, F.S.; revising the composition of the
134 Aquaculture Review Council to conform to the repeal by
135 the act of provisions creating the Aquaculture
136 Interagency Coordinating Council; revising the
137 legislative committees to whom the Aquaculture Review
138 Council must provide analyses of unresolved industry
139 issues; repealing s. 597.006, F.S., relating to the
140 Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council; amending
141 s. 616.252, F.S.; providing for the reimbursement of
142 members of the Florida State Fair Authority for per
143 diem and travel expenses; providing an effective date.

144

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

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146

147 Section 1. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (2) of
148 section 20.14, Florida Statutes, to read:

149 20.14 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.—
150 There is created a Department of Agriculture and Consumer
151 Services.

152 (2) The following divisions of the Department of
153 Agriculture and Consumer Services are established:

154 (m) Food, Nutrition, and Wellness.

155 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 253.002, Florida
156 Statutes, is amended to read:

157 253.002 Department of Environmental Protection, water
158 management districts, Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission,
159 and Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; duties with
160 respect to state lands.—

161 (1) The Department of Environmental Protection shall
162 perform all staff duties and functions related to the
163 acquisition, administration, and disposition of state lands,
164 title to which is or will be vested in the Board of Trustees of
165 the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. However, upon the effective
166 date of rules adopted pursuant to s. 373.427, a water management
167 district created under s. 373.069 shall perform the staff duties
168 and functions related to the review of any application for
169 authorization to use board of trustees-owned submerged lands
170 necessary for an activity regulated under part IV of chapter 373
171 for which the water management district has permitting
172 responsibility as set forth in an operating agreement adopted
173 pursuant to s. 373.046(4) ~~.,—and~~ The Department of Agriculture
174 and Consumer Services shall perform the staff duties and

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175 functions related to the review of applications and compliance
176 with conditions for use of board of trustees-owned submerged
177 lands under authorizations or leases issued pursuant to ss.
178 253.67-253.75 and 597.010 and the acquisition, administration,
179 and disposition of conservation easements pursuant to s. 570.71.
180 Unless expressly prohibited by law, the board of trustees may
181 delegate to the department any statutory duty or obligation
182 relating to the acquisition, administration, or disposition of
183 lands, title to which is or will be vested in the board of
184 trustees. The board of trustees may also delegate to any water
185 management district created under s. 373.069 the authority to
186 take final agency action, without any action on behalf of the
187 board, on applications for authorization to use board of
188 trustees-owned submerged lands for any activity regulated under
189 part IV of chapter 373 for which the water management district
190 has permitting responsibility as set forth in an operating
191 agreement adopted pursuant to s. 373.046(4). This water
192 management district responsibility under this subsection shall
193 be subject to the department's general supervisory authority
194 pursuant to s. 373.026(7). The board of trustees may also
195 delegate to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
196 the authority to take final agency action on behalf of the board
197 on applications to use board of trustees-owned submerged lands
198 for any activity for which that department has responsibility
199 pursuant to ss. 253.67-253.75, 369.25, 369.251, and 597.010.
200 However, the board of trustees shall retain the authority to
201 take final agency action on establishing any areas for leasing,
202 new leases, expanding existing lease areas, or changing the type
203 of lease activity in existing leases. Upon issuance of an

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204 aquaculture lease or other real property transaction relating to
205 aquaculture, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
206 must send a copy of the document and the accompanying survey to
207 the Department of Environmental Protection. The board of
208 trustees may also delegate to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
209 Commission the authority to take final agency action, without
210 any action on behalf of the board, on applications for
211 authorization to use board of trustees-owned submerged lands for
212 any activity regulated under ss. 369.20 and 369.22.

213 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) and paragraph
214 (b) of subsection (6) of section 379.2523, Florida Statutes, are
215 amended to read:

216 379.2523 Aquaculture definitions; marine aquaculture
217 products, producers, and facilities.-

218 (5) The department shall:

219 (a) Coordinate with the Aquaculture Review Council, ~~the~~
220 ~~Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council,~~ and the Department
221 of Agriculture and Consumer Services when developing criteria
222 for aquaculture general permits.

223 (6) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
224 encourage the development of aquaculture in the state through
225 the following:

226 (b) Facilitating aquaculture research on life histories,
227 stock enhancement, and alternative species, and providing
228 research results that would assist in the evaluation,
229 development, and commercial production of candidate species for
230 aquaculture, including:

231 1. Providing eggs, larvae, fry, and fingerlings to
232 aquaculturists when excess cultured stocks are available from

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233 the commission's facilities and the culture activities are
234 consistent with the commission's stock enhancement projects.
235 Such stocks may be obtained by reimbursing the commission for
236 the cost of production on a per-unit basis. Revenues resulting
237 from the sale of stocks shall be deposited into the trust fund
238 used to support the production of such stocks.

239 2. Conducting research programs to evaluate candidate
240 species when funding and staff are available.

241 3. Encouraging the private production of marine fish and
242 shellfish stocks for the purpose of providing such stocks for
243 statewide stock enhancement programs. When such stocks become
244 available, the commission shall reduce or eliminate duplicative
245 production practices that would result in direct competition
246 with private commercial producers.

247 4. Developing a working group, in cooperation with the
248 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and, the
249 Aquaculture Review Council, ~~and the Aquaculture Interagency~~
250 ~~Coordinating Council~~, to plan and facilitate the development of
251 private marine fish and nonfish hatcheries and to encourage
252 private/public partnerships to promote the production of marine
253 aquaculture products.

254 Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section
255 379.2524, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

256 379.2524 Commercial production of sturgeon.—

257 (3) MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS.—The working group shall
258 meet at least twice a year and elect, by a quorum, a chair and
259 vice chair.

260 (c) A quorum shall consist of a majority of the group
261 members. ~~Members of the group shall not receive compensation,~~

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262 ~~but shall be entitled to per diem and travel expenses, including~~
263 ~~attendance at meetings, as allowed public officers and employees~~
264 ~~pursuant to s. 112.061.~~

265 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 388.161, Florida
266 Statutes, is amended to read:

267 388.161 District boards of commissioners; powers and
268 duties.—

269 (1) The board of commissioners may do any and all things
270 necessary for the control and elimination of all species of
271 mosquitoes and other arthropods of public health importance and
272 the board of commissioners is specifically authorized to provide
273 for the construction and maintenance of canals, ditches, drains,
274 dikes, fills, and other necessary works and to install and
275 maintain pumps, excavators, and other machinery and equipment,
276 to use pesticides registered ~~oil, larvicide paris green, or any~~
277 ~~other chemicals approved~~ by the department but only in such
278 quantities as may be necessary to control mosquito breeding and
279 not be detrimental to fish life.

280 Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 388.201, Florida
281 Statutes, is amended to read:

282 388.201 District budgets; hearing.—

283 (4) The governing board:

284 (a) Shall consider ~~give consideration to~~ objections filed
285 against adoption of the tentative detailed work plan budget and
286 in its discretion may amend, modify, or change such budget; and

287 (b) Shall by September 30 ~~15 following~~ adopt and execute on
288 a form furnished by the department a certified budget for the
289 district which shall be the operating and fiscal guide for the
290 district. Certified copies of this budget shall be submitted by

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291 September 30 ~~15~~ to the department for approval.

292 Section 7. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 388.323,
293 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

294 388.323 Disposal of surplus property.—Surplus property
295 shall be disposed of according to the provisions set forth in s.
296 274.05 with the following exceptions:

297 (1) Serviceable equipment no longer needed by a county or
298 district shall first be offered to any or all other counties or
299 districts engaged in arthropod control at a price established by
300 the board of commissioners owning the equipment. ~~If no~~
301 ~~acceptable offer is received within a reasonable time, the~~
302 ~~equipment shall be offered to such other governmental units or~~
303 ~~private nonprofit agencies as provided in s. 274.05.~~

304 (2) The alternative procedure for disposal of surplus
305 property, as prescribed in s. 274.06, shall be followed if it is
306 ~~has been~~ determined that no other county or, district engaged in
307 arthropod control, ~~governmental unit, or private nonprofit~~
308 ~~agency~~ has need for the equipment.

309 Section 8. Section 388.42, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

310 Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 388.46, Florida
311 Statutes, is amended to read:

312 388.46 Florida Coordinating Council on Mosquito Control;
313 establishment; membership; organization; responsibilities.—

314 (2) MEMBERSHIP, ORGANIZATION, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—

315 (a) *Membership*.—The Florida Coordinating Council on
316 Mosquito Control shall be comprised of the following
317 representatives or their authorized designees:

318 1. The Secretary of Environmental Protection. and

319 2. The State Surgeon General. ~~†~~

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320 ~~3.2.~~ The executive director of the Fish and Wildlife
321 Conservation Commission.~~†~~

322 ~~4.3.~~ The state epidemiologist.~~;~~

323 ~~5.4.~~ The Commissioner of Agriculture.~~†~~ ~~and~~

324 ~~6.~~ The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust
325 Fund.

326 ~~7.5.~~ Representatives from:

327 a. The University of Florida, Institute of Food and
328 Agricultural Sciences, Florida Medical Entomological Research
329 Laboratory.~~†~~

330 ~~b. Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University;~~

331 ~~b.e.~~ The United States Environmental Protection Agency.~~†~~

332 ~~c.d.~~ The United States Department of Agriculture, Insects
333 Affecting Man Laboratory.~~†~~

334 ~~d.e.~~ The United States Fish and Wildlife Service.~~†~~

335 ~~8.f.~~ Two mosquito control directors to be nominated by the
336 Florida Mosquito Control Association, two representatives of
337 Florida environmental groups, and two private citizens who are
338 property owners whose lands are regularly subject to mosquito
339 control operations, to be appointed to 4-year terms by the
340 Commissioner of Agriculture;~~†~~ ~~and~~

341 ~~g. The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust~~
342 ~~Fund.~~

343 (b) *Organization.*—The council shall be chaired by the
344 Commissioner of Agriculture or the commissioner's authorized
345 designee. A majority of the membership of the council shall
346 constitute a quorum for the conduct of business. The chair shall
347 be responsible for recording and distributing to the members a
348 summary of the proceedings of all council meetings. The council

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349 shall meet at least three times each year, or as needed. The
350 council may designate subcommittees from time to time to assist
351 in carrying out its responsibilities, provided that the
352 Subcommittee on Managed Marshes shall be the first subcommittee
353 appointed by the council. The subcommittee shall continue to
354 provide technical assistance and guidance on saltmarsh ~~mosquito~~
355 ~~impoundment~~ management plans and ~~develop and review~~ research
356 proposals, taking into account the mosquito control source
357 reduction implications and natural resource interests in these
358 habitats ~~for mosquito source reduction techniques.~~

359 (c) *Responsibilities.*—The council shall:

360 1. Develop and implement guidelines to assist the
361 department in resolving disputes arising over the control of
362 arthropods on publicly owned lands.

363 ~~2. Identify and recommend to Florida Agricultural and~~
364 ~~Mechanical University research priorities for arthropod control~~
365 ~~practices and technologies.~~

366 ~~2.3.~~ Develop and recommend to the department a request for
367 proposal process for arthropod control research.

368 ~~3.4.~~ Identify potential funding sources for research or
369 implementation projects and evaluate and prioritize proposals
370 upon request by the funding source.

371 ~~4.5.~~ Prepare and present reports, as needed, on arthropod
372 control activities in the state to the Pesticide Review Council,
373 ~~the Florida Coastal Management Program Interagency Management~~
374 ~~Committee,~~ and other governmental organizations, as appropriate.

375 Section 10. Subsections (7) and (8) of section 493.6104,
376 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) and (7),
377 respectively, and present subsection (6) of that section is

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378 amended to read:

379 493.6104 Advisory council.-

380 ~~(6) Council members shall serve without pay; however, state~~
381 ~~per diem and travel allowances may be claimed for attendance at~~
382 ~~officially called meetings as provided by s. 112.061.~~

383 Section 11. Subsection (3) of section 500.09, Florida
384 Statutes, is amended to read:

385 500.09 Rulemaking; analytical work.-

386 (3) The department may adopt rules necessary for the
387 efficient enforcement of this chapter. Such rules must be
388 consistent with those adopted under the federal act in regard to
389 food and, to this end, may adopt by reference those rules and
390 the current edition of the model Food Code issued by the Food
391 and Drug Administration and Public Health Service of the United
392 States Department of Health and Human Services, when applicable
393 and practicable.

394 Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 500.147, Florida
395 Statutes, is amended to read:

396 500.147 Inspection of food establishments and vehicles,
397 ~~food safety pilot program.-~~

398 ~~(6) The department is authorized to initiate a food safety~~
399 ~~pilot program establishing a special, documented food inspection~~
400 ~~program based on sound science principles of the Hazard Analysis~~
401 ~~Critical Control Point (HACCP) system and involving cooperative~~
402 ~~compliance efforts of both the department and the food~~
403 ~~establishment to assure consumers a safe, wholesome, and~~
404 ~~properly labeled food supply. A food establishment shall be~~
405 ~~eligible for such a pilot program only if program criteria are~~
406 ~~met. Criteria used to establish this special program include,~~

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407 ~~but are not limited to, the following:~~

408 ~~(a) A good inspection history over a specified time period.~~

409 ~~(b) Certified food manager activities demonstrated to be~~
410 ~~effective in assessing food safety practices and correcting~~
411 ~~deficiencies at the food establishment.~~

412 ~~(c) An active food training program in place for employees.~~

413 ~~(d) "Self inspection" records of the food establishment~~
414 ~~made available for review by the department.~~

415 ~~(e) Written sanitation standard operation procedures in~~
416 ~~place and the food establishment's verification records made~~
417 ~~available for review by the department.~~

418 ~~(f) Freezer/refrigeration units and hot-cold temperature~~
419 ~~logs or recording charts made available for review by the~~
420 ~~department.~~

421 ~~(g) Records of corrective action to resolve food safety~~
422 ~~deficiencies made available for review by the department.~~

423 Section 13. Subsections (4) through (7) of section 502.014,
424 Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) through (6),
425 respectively, and present subsection (3) of that section is
426 amended to read:

427 502.014 Powers and duties.—

428 ~~(3) The department shall manage a program to issue permits~~
429 ~~to persons who test milk or milk products for milkfat content by~~
430 ~~weight, volume, chemical, electronic, or other means when the~~
431 ~~result of such test is used as a basis for payment for the milk~~
432 ~~or milk products.~~

433 Section 14. Subsections (1) and (2) and paragraphs (a) and
434 (e) of subsection (3) of section 502.053, Florida Statutes, are
435 amended to read:

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436 502.053 Permits and ~~licenses~~; fees; requirements;
437 exemptions; temporary permits.-

438 (1) ~~PERMITS AND LICENSES~~.-

439 (a) Each Grade "A" milk plant, whether located in the state
440 or outside the state, and each manufacturing milk plant, milk
441 producer, milk hauler, milk hauling service, washing station
442 operator, milk plant operator, milk distributor, single-service-
443 container manufacturer, receiving station, and transfer station
444 in the state shall apply to the department for a permit to
445 operate. The application shall be on forms developed by the
446 department.

447 (b) Each frozen dessert plant, whether located in the state
448 or outside the state, that manufactures frozen desserts or other
449 products defined in this chapter and offers these products for
450 sale in this state must apply to the department for a permit to
451 operate. The application must be submitted on forms prescribed
452 by the department. All frozen dessert permits expire on June 30
453 of each year.

454 ~~(c) Any person who tests milk or milk products for milkfat
455 content by weight, volume, chemical, electronic, or other method
456 when the result of such test is used as a basis for payment for
457 the milk or milk products must apply to the department for a
458 license. To qualify for a license, the applicant must
459 demonstrate a sufficiency of knowledge, ability, and equipment
460 to adequately perform milkfat tests. The license shall be issued
461 for a period of 2 years after the date of first issuance upon
462 application to the department on forms prescribed by the
463 department.~~

464 (c) ~~(d)~~ Permits and licenses are nontransferable between

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465 persons or locations and are subject to suspension or revocation
466 as provided in this chapter.

467 (2) FEES.—

468 ~~(a)~~ The initial application for a frozen dessert plant
469 permit must be accompanied by a permit fee of \$200. The annual
470 permit renewal fee is \$100.

471 ~~(b) The department shall charge each applicant for a~~
472 ~~milkfat tester's license a fee not to exceed \$125.~~

473 (3) REQUIREMENTS.—

474 (a) To obtain a ~~frozen dessert plant permit or milkfat~~
475 ~~tester's license~~, an applicant must satisfy all requirements
476 that are defined by the department in rule and must agree to
477 comply with the applicable provisions of this chapter and rules
478 adopted under this chapter. The department shall mail a copy of
479 the permit ~~or license~~ to the applicant to signify that
480 administrative requirements have been met.

481 ~~(c) Each licensed milkfat tester shall keep records of~~
482 ~~milkfat tests conducted by him or her for a period of 1 year,~~
483 ~~and such records must be available for inspection by the~~
484 ~~department at all reasonable hours.~~

485 Section 15. Subsection (9) of section 570.0705, Florida
486 Statutes, is amended to read:

487 570.0705 Advisory committees.—From time to time the
488 commissioner may appoint any advisory committee to assist the
489 department with its duties and responsibilities.

490 (9) Notwithstanding s. 20.052(4)(d), members of each
491 advisory committee, council, board, working group, task force,
492 or other advisory body created by law within the department or
493 created by the department under this section may not be

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494 reimbursed for per diem or travel expenses as provided in s.
495 112.061 ~~shall receive no compensation for their services.~~

496 Section 16. Section 570.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

497 Section 17. Section 570.074, Florida Statutes, is amended
498 to read:

499 570.074 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
500 ~~energy and water policy.~~—The commissioner may create an Office
501 of Agricultural Energy and Water Policy under the supervision of
502 a senior manager exempt under s. 110.205 in the Senior
503 Management Service. The commissioner may designate the bureaus
504 and positions in the various organizational divisions of the
505 department that report to this office relating to any matter
506 over which the department has jurisdiction in matters relating
507 to ~~energy and water policy~~ affecting agriculture, application of
508 such policies, and coordination of such matters with state and
509 federal agencies.

510 Section 18. Section 570.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to
511 read:

512 570.18 Organization of departmental work.—In the assignment
513 of functions to the divisions of the department created in s.
514 20.14 ~~570.29~~, the department shall retain within the Division of
515 Administration, in addition to executive functions, those powers
516 and duties enumerated in s. 570.30. The department shall
517 organize the work of the other divisions in such a way as to
518 secure maximum efficiency in the conduct of the department. The
519 divisions created in s. 20.14 ~~570.29~~ are solely to make possible
520 the definite placing of responsibility. The department shall be
521 conducted as a unit in which every employee, including each
522 division director, is assigned a definite workload, and there

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523 shall exist between division directors a spirit of cooperative
524 effort to accomplish the work of the department.

525 Section 19. Section 570.29, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

526 Section 20. Section 570.34, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

527 Section 21. Section 570.451, Florida Statutes, is created
528 to read:

529 570.451 Agricultural Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer Advisory
530 Council.—

531 (1) The Agricultural Feed, Seed, and Fertilizer Advisory
532 Council is created within the department.

533 (2) The council is composed of the following 15 members
534 appointed by the commissioner:

535 (a) One representative of the department.

536 (b) One representative of the dean for extension of the
537 Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of
538 Florida.

539 (c) One representative each from the state's beef cattle,
540 poultry, aquaculture, field crops, citrus, vegetable, and dairy
541 production industries.

542 (d) Two representatives each from the state's fertilizer,
543 seed, and commercial feed industries.

544
545 Each member shall be appointed for a term of not to exceed 4
546 years and shall serve until his or her successor is appointed.

547 (3) (a) A majority of the council members constitutes a
548 quorum for all purposes, and an act by a majority of such quorum
549 at any meeting constitutes an official act of the council. The
550 secretary shall keep a complete record of each meeting, which
551 must show the names of members present and the actions taken.

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552 Such records must be kept on file with the department.

553 (b) Members of the council shall meet and organize by
554 electing a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary whose terms
555 shall be for 2 years each. Council officers may not serve
556 consecutive terms.

557 (c) The council shall meet at the call of its chair, at the
558 request of a majority of its members, at the request of the
559 department, or at such time as an agricultural or environmental
560 emergency arises, but not less than twice per year.

561 (d) The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and
562 recordkeeping of the council shall be in accordance with the
563 provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees
564 established within the department.

565 (4) The council shall:

566 (a) Receive reports of relevant enforcement activity
567 conducted by the Division of Agricultural Environmental
568 Services, including the number of inspections, the number of
569 administrative actions, the number of complaints received and
570 investigated, and the dispositions of complaints.

571 (b) Provide advice to the department on the conduct of
572 relevant enforcement activities.

573 (c) Receive reports on disciplinary actions.

574 (d) Make recommendations to the commissioner for actions to
575 be taken with respect to the regulation of agricultural feed,
576 seed, and fertilizer.

577 Section 22. Paragraph (e) of subsection (6) of section
578 570.53, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

579 570.53 Division of Marketing and Development; powers and
580 duties.—The powers and duties of the Division of Marketing and

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581 Development include, but are not limited to:

582 (6)

583 (e) Extending in every practicable way the distribution and
584 sale of Florida agricultural products throughout the markets of
585 the world as required of the department by s. ~~ss.~~ 570.07(7),
586 (8), (10), and (11) ~~and 570.071~~ and chapters 571, 573, and 574.

587 Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 570.54, Florida
588 Statutes, is amended to read:

589 570.54 Director; duties.—

590 (2) It shall be the duty of the director of this division
591 to supervise, direct, and coordinate the activities authorized
592 by ss. 570.07(4), (7), (8), (10), (11), (12), (17), (18), and
593 (20), ~~570.071~~, 570.21, 534.47-534.53, and 604.15-604.34 and
594 chapters 504, 571, 573, and 574 and to exercise other powers and
595 authority as authorized by the department.

596 Section 24. Subsection (7) of section 573.112, Florida
597 Statutes, is amended to read:

598 573.112 Advisory council.—

599 (7) Notwithstanding any provision of this section, the
600 Citrus Research and Development Foundation, Inc., a direct-
601 support organization of the University of Florida established
602 pursuant to s. 1004.28, shall serve as the advisory council for
603 a citrus research marketing order, provide the department with
604 advice on administering the order, and, in accordance with the
605 order, conduct citrus research and perform other duties assigned
606 by the department. Notwithstanding s. 1004.28(3) or any
607 provision of this section, the foundation's board of directors
608 shall be composed of 13 members, including 10 citrus growers, 2
609 representatives of the university's Institute of Food and

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610 Agricultural Sciences, and 1 member appointed by the
611 Commissioner of Agriculture, who are each entitled to
612 reimbursement from the foundation for per diem and travel
613 expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

614 Section 25. Subsection (4) of section 573.118, Florida
615 Statutes, is amended to read:

616 573.118 Assessment; funds; review of accounts ~~audit~~;
617 loans.-

618 (4) In the event of levying and collecting of assessments,
619 for each fiscal year in which assessment funds are received by
620 the department, the department shall maintain records of
621 collections and expenditures for each marketing order separately
622 within the state's accounting system. If requested by an
623 advisory council, department staff shall cause to be made a
624 thorough review ~~annual audit~~ of the ~~books and accounts by a~~
625 ~~certified public accountant~~, such review ~~audit~~ to be completed
626 within 60 days after the request is received ~~end of the fiscal~~
627 ~~year~~. The department and all producers and handlers covered by
628 the marketing order shall be properly advised of the details of
629 the review ~~annual official audit~~ of the account ~~accounts as~~
630 ~~shown by the certified public accountant~~ within 30 days after ~~of~~
631 the review ~~audit~~.

632 Section 26. Subsection (8) of section 576.045, Florida
633 Statutes, is amended to read:

634 576.045 Nitrogen and phosphorus; findings and intent; fees;
635 purpose; best management practices; waiver of liability;
636 compliance; rules; exclusions; expiration.-

637 (8) EXPIRATION OF PROVISIONS.—Subsections (1), (2), (3),
638 (4), and (6) expire on December 31, 2022 ~~2012~~. Subsections (5)

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639 and (7) expire on December 31, 2027 ~~2017~~.

640 Section 27. Section 576.071, Florida Statutes, is amended
641 to read:

642 576.071 Commercial value.—The commercial value used in
643 assessing penalties for any deficiency shall be determined by
644 using annualized plant nutrient values contained in one or more
645 generally recognized journals ~~recommended by the Fertilizer~~
646 ~~Technical Council~~.

647 Section 28. Section 576.091, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

648 Section 29. Section 578.30, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

649 Section 30. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) and subsection
650 (3) of section 580.041, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

651 580.041 Master registration; fee; refusal or cancellation
652 of registration; reporting.—

653 (1)

654 (c) Registration shall be conditioned on the distributor's
655 compliance with all provisions of this chapter and rules adopted
656 under this chapter ~~thereof~~, including:

657 1. Submitting samples of manufactured feed for testing by
658 laboratories that have been certified by the department or
659 obtaining an exemption from the certified laboratory testing
660 requirement, as provided by this chapter and rules thereof.

661 2. Maintaining a bookkeeping system and records necessary
662 to indicate accurately the type and tonnage of commercial feeds
663 sold in this state ~~that will allow the department to verify the~~
664 ~~accuracy of the reported tonnage.~~

665 3. Reporting within 30 days after the end of each quarter,
666 in the format prescribed by the department, the number of tons
667 of feed distributed in the state during each of the following

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668 reporting periods: July through September, October through
669 December, January through March, and April through June.

670 4.3. Allowing the department to verify the accuracy of
671 reported type and tonnage and to otherwise examine pertinent
672 records at reasonable times.

673 (3) The department may refuse, suspend, or cancel the
674 master registration of, or impose one or more of the penalties
675 provided in s. 580.121, against any distributor or registrant
676 who violates or fails to comply with the provisions of this
677 chapter.

678 Section 31. Section 580.131, Florida Statutes, is amended
679 to read:

680 580.131 Penalty payable to consumer.—

681 (1) Any consumer who purchases without notice a commercial
682 feed or feedstuff that is ~~has been~~ distributed in violation of
683 this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter shall, in any
684 legal or administrative action that may be instituted, recover
685 penalties as follows:

686 (a)~~(1)~~ If a certified laboratory analysis shows that any
687 feed bearing a guarantee of 20 percent protein~~7~~ or less~~7~~ falls
688 more than 1 percent protein below the guarantee, or if the
689 analysis shows that any feed bearing a guarantee of more than 20
690 percent protein falls more than 2 percent protein below the
691 guarantee, \$4 per ton for each percent protein deficiency shall
692 be assessed against the manufacturer or distributor.

693 (b)~~(2)~~ If a certified laboratory analysis shows that any
694 feed is deficient in fat by more than 0.5 ~~five-tenths~~ percent
695 fat, \$4 per ton for each percent fat deficiency shall be
696 assessed against the manufacturer or distributor.

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697 (c)~~(3)~~ If a certified laboratory analysis shows that any
698 feed bearing a maximum guarantee of not more than 20 percent
699 fiber exceeds this guarantee by more than 1 percent fiber, or if
700 the analysis shows that any feed bearing a maximum guarantee of
701 more than 20 percent fiber exceeds this guarantee by more than 2
702 percent fiber, \$4 per ton for each percent fiber excess shall be
703 assessed against the manufacturer or distributor.

704 (d)~~(4)~~ If a certified laboratory analysis shows that any
705 commercial feed is deficient or excessive in the required drug,
706 mineral, or nutritive guarantees other than protein, fat, or
707 fiber, a penalty of \$4 per ton shall be assessed against the
708 manufacturer or distributor for each deficiency or excessive
709 level found.

710 (e)~~(5)~~ If a certified laboratory analysis shows that any
711 commercial feed or feedstuff is found to be adulterated as
712 provided in s. 580.071, a penalty of \$4 per ton shall be
713 assessed against the manufacturer or distributor for each
714 violation found.

715 (f)~~(6)~~ If any feed is found by the department to be short
716 in weight, 4 times the invoice value of the actual shortage
717 shall be assessed against the manufacturer or distributor, but
718 in no instance shall the penalty be less than \$25. The
719 department by rule may establish variations for short weight.

720 (g)~~(7)~~ ~~In no case shall~~ Any penalty assessed under ~~as~~
721 ~~specified in~~ this section ~~be less than \$10~~, regardless of the
722 monetary value of the violation, must be at least \$10.

723 (2) (a) Within 60 days after the department notifies a
724 registrant in writing of any penalty assessed under this
725 section, the registrant shall pay the penalty to the consumer.

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726 If the consumer's identity cannot be determined, the registrant
727 shall, within the 60-day period, pay the assessed penalty to the
728 department.

729 (b) A registrant who, within the 60-day period, fails to
730 pay the full amount of the assessed penalty to the consumer or
731 the department, as applicable, in addition to the penalty
732 assessed under this section, is also subject to the penalties
733 provided in s. 580.121.

734 (c) The proceeds from any penalties paid to the department
735 under this section shall be deposited into the department's
736 General Inspection Trust Fund and be used by the department for
737 the exclusive purpose of administering this chapter.

738 Section 32. Section 580.151, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

739 Section 33. Subsection (30) of section 581.011, Florida
740 Statutes, is amended to read:

741 581.011 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

742 ~~(30) "Technical council" means the Plant Industry Technical~~
743 ~~Council.~~

744 Section 34. Subsection (3) of section 581.145, Florida
745 Statutes, is amended to read:

746 581.145 Aquatic plant nursery registration; special permit
747 requirements.—

748 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of state or federal
749 law, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall
750 issue, by request, a permit to the aquaculture producer to
751 engage in the business of transporting and selling ~~exporting~~
752 water hyacinths (*Eichhornia spp.*) only to other states or
753 countries that permit such transportation and sale ~~other than~~
754 ~~the United States and only when such water hyacinths are~~

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755 ~~cultivated in a nursery for the sole purpose of exportation and~~
756 ~~the aquaculture activities have activity has~~ been certified by
757 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. In
758 accordance with any appropriate state or federal law or United
759 States treaty, ~~a~~ ~~ne~~ Florida aquaculture producer may not ~~shall~~
760 ship water hyacinths to other states or countries ~~other than the~~
761 ~~United States~~ under such a permit for the purpose of importing
762 water hyacinths back into Florida ~~the United States~~, ~~nor shall~~
763 ~~drop shipments be made to any other destination within the~~
764 ~~United States~~. This subsection does not ~~provision shall in no~~
765 ~~way~~ restrict or interfere with the ~~Department of Environmental~~
766 ~~Protection's~~ efforts of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
767 Commission, or the efforts ~~those~~ of any other agency or local
768 government with responsibilities for the management of noxious
769 aquatic plants, to control or eradicate noxious nonnursery
770 aquatic plants, including water hyacinths. This subsection may
771 ~~provision shall~~ not be considered ~~a consideration~~ in the
772 approval or the release of biological control agents for water
773 hyacinths or any other noxious aquatic plants.

774 Section 35. Section 582.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to
775 read:

776 582.06 Soil and Water Conservation Council; powers and
777 duties.—

778 (1) COMPOSITION.—

779 (a) The Soil and Water Conservation Council is created in
780 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and shall be
781 composed of 7 ~~23~~ members ~~as follows:~~

782 ~~(a) Eleven members shall be persons~~ who have been involved
783 in the practice of soil or water conservation, or in the

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784 development or implementation of interim measures or best
785 management practices related thereto, and who have been engaged
786 in agriculture or an occupation related to the agricultural
787 industry for at least 5 years at the time of their appointment.

788 ~~(b) Twelve members shall include one representative each~~
789 ~~from the Department of Environmental Protection, the five water~~
790 ~~management districts, the Institute of Food and Agricultural~~
791 ~~Sciences at the University of Florida, the United States~~
792 ~~Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation~~
793 ~~Service, the Florida Association of Counties, and the Florida~~
794 ~~League of Cities and two representatives of environmental~~
795 ~~interests.~~

796 (b)~~(e)~~ All members shall be appointed by the commissioner.
797 ~~Members appointed pursuant to paragraph (b) shall be appointed~~
798 ~~by the commissioner from recommendations provided by the~~
799 ~~organization or interest represented.~~

800 (c)~~(d)~~ Members shall serve 4-year terms or until their
801 successors are duly qualified and appointed. If a vacancy
802 occurs, it shall be filled for the remainder of the term in the
803 manner of an initial appointment.

804 (2) POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS;
805 ~~COMPENSATION.~~The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and
806 recordkeeping of the Soil and Water Conservation Council, ~~and~~
807 ~~per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members,~~ shall
808 be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to
809 advisory committees established within the department.

810 Section 36. Section 582.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to
811 read:

812 582.20 Powers of districts and supervisors.—A soil and

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813 water conservation district organized under the provisions of
814 this chapter shall constitute a governmental subdivision of this
815 state, and a public body corporate and politic, exercising
816 public powers, and such district and the supervisors thereof,
817 shall have the following powers, in addition to others granted
818 in other sections of this chapter:

819 (1) To conduct surveys, investigations, and research
820 relating to the character of soil erosion and floodwater and
821 sediment damages, to the conservation, development and
822 utilization of soil and water resources and the disposal of
823 water, and to the preventive and control measures and works of
824 improvement needed; to publish the results of such surveys,
825 investigations, or research; and to disseminate information
826 concerning such preventive and control measures and works of
827 improvement; provided, however, that in order to avoid
828 duplication of research activities, no district shall initiate
829 any research program except in cooperation with the government
830 of this state or any of its agencies, or with the United States
831 or any of its agencies.

832 (2) To conduct demonstrational projects within the
833 district's boundaries, territory within another district's
834 boundaries subject to the other district's approval, or
835 territory not contained within any district's boundaries
836 ~~district~~ on lands owned or controlled by this state or any of
837 its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency administering
838 and having jurisdiction thereof, and on any other lands within
839 the district's boundaries, territory within another district's
840 boundaries subject to the other district's approval, or
841 territory not contained within any district's boundaries

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842 ~~district~~ upon obtaining the consent of the owner and occupiers
843 of such lands or the necessary rights or interests in such
844 lands, in order to demonstrate by example the means, methods,
845 and measures by which soil and soil resources may be conserved,
846 and soil erosion in the form of soil blowing and soil washing
847 may be prevented and controlled, and works of improvement for
848 flood prevention or the conservation, development and
849 utilization of soil and water resources, and the disposal of
850 water may be carried out.†

851 (3) To carry out preventive and control measures and works
852 of improvement for flood prevention or the conservation,
853 development and utilization of soil and water resources, and the
854 disposal of water within the district's boundaries, territory
855 within another district's boundaries subject to the other
856 district's approval, or territory not contained within any
857 district's boundaries ~~district~~, including, but not limited to,
858 engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing of
859 vegetation, changes in use of land, and the measures listed in
860 s. 582.04 on lands owned or controlled by this state or any of
861 its agencies, with the cooperation of the agency administering
862 and having jurisdiction thereof, and on any other lands within
863 the district's boundaries, territory within another district's
864 boundaries subject to the other district's approval, or
865 territory not contained within any district's boundaries
866 ~~district~~ upon obtaining the consent of the owner and the
867 occupiers of such lands or the necessary rights or interests in
868 such lands.†

869 (4) To cooperate, or enter into agreements with, and within
870 the limits of appropriations duly made available to it by law,

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871 to furnish financial or other aid to, any agency, governmental
872 or otherwise, or any owner or occupier of lands within the
873 district's boundaries, territory within another district's
874 boundaries subject to the other district's approval, or
875 territory not contained within any district's boundaries
876 ~~district~~, in the carrying on of erosion control or prevention
877 operations and works of improvement for flood prevention or the
878 conservation, development and utilization, of soil and water
879 resources and the disposal of water within the district's
880 boundaries, territory within another district's boundaries
881 subject to the other district's approval, or territory not
882 contained within any district's boundaries ~~district~~, subject to
883 such conditions as the supervisors may deem necessary to advance
884 the purposes of this chapter.†

885 (5) To obtain options upon and to acquire, by purchase,
886 exchange, lease, gift, grant, bequest, devise or otherwise, any
887 property, real or personal, or rights or interests therein; to
888 maintain, administer, and improve any properties acquired, to
889 receive income from such properties and to expend such income in
890 carrying out the purposes and provisions of this chapter; and to
891 sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of any of its property or
892 interests therein in furtherance of the purposes and the
893 provisions of this chapter.†

894 (6) To make available, on such terms as it shall prescribe,
895 to landowners and occupiers within the district's boundaries,
896 territory within another district's boundaries subject to the
897 other district's approval, or territory not contained within any
898 district's boundaries ~~district~~, agricultural and engineering
899 machinery and equipment, fertilizer, seeds and seedlings, and

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900 such other material or equipment, as will assist such landowners
901 and occupiers to carry on operations upon their lands for the
902 conservation of soil resources and for the prevention or control
903 of soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation,
904 development and utilization, of soil and water resources and the
905 disposal of water.~~†~~

906 (7) To construct, improve, operate and maintain such
907 structures as may be necessary or convenient for the performance
908 of any of the operations authorized in this chapter.~~†~~

909 (8) To develop comprehensive plans for the conservation of
910 soil and water resources and for the control and prevention of
911 soil erosion and for flood prevention or the conservation,
912 development and utilization of soil and water resources, and the
913 disposal of water within the district's boundaries, territory
914 within another district's boundaries subject to the other
915 district's approval, or territory not contained within any
916 district's boundaries ~~district~~, which plans shall specify in
917 such detail as may be possible the acts, procedures,
918 performances, and avoidances which are necessary or desirable
919 for the effectuation of such plans, including the specification
920 of engineering operations, methods of cultivation, the growing
921 of vegetation, cropping programs, tillage practices, and changes
922 in use of land; control of artesian wells; and to publish such
923 plans and information and bring them to the attention of owners
924 and occupiers of lands within the district's boundaries,
925 territory within another district's boundaries subject to the
926 other district's approval, or territory not contained within any
927 district's boundaries. ~~district;~~

928 (9) To take over, by purchase, lease, or otherwise, and to

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929 administer any soil-conservation, erosion-control, erosion-
930 prevention project, or any project for flood-prevention or for
931 the conservation, development and utilization of soil and water
932 resources, and the disposal of water, located within the
933 district's ~~its~~ boundaries, territory within another district's
934 boundaries subject to the other district's approval, or
935 territory not contained within any district's boundaries,
936 undertaken by the United States or any of its agencies, or by
937 this state or any of its agencies; to manage as agent of the
938 United States or any of its agencies, or of the state or any of
939 its agencies, any soil-conservation, erosion-control, erosion-
940 prevention, or any project for flood-prevention or for the
941 conservation, development, and utilization of soil and water
942 resources, and the disposal of water within the district's ~~its~~
943 boundaries, territory within another district's boundaries
944 subject to the other district's approval, or territory not
945 contained within any district's boundaries; to act as agent for
946 the United States, or any of its agencies, or for the state or
947 any of its agencies, in connection with the acquisition,
948 construction, operation or administration of any soil-
949 conservation, erosion-control, erosion-prevention, or any
950 project for flood-prevention or for the conservation,
951 development and utilization of soil and water resources, and the
952 disposal of water within the district's ~~its~~ boundaries,
953 territory within another district's boundaries subject to the
954 other district's approval, or territory not contained within any
955 district's boundaries; to accept donations, gifts, and
956 contributions in money, services, materials, or otherwise, from
957 the United States or any of its agencies, or from this state or

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958 any of its agencies, or from others, and to use or expend such
959 moneys, services, materials or other contributions in carrying
960 on its operations.‡

961 (10) To sue and be sued in the name of the district; to
962 have a seal, which seal shall be judicially noticed; to have
963 perpetual succession unless terminated as provided in this
964 chapter; to make and execute contracts and other instruments
965 necessary or convenient to the exercise of its powers; upon a
966 majority vote of the supervisors of the district, to borrow
967 money and to execute promissory notes and other evidences of
968 indebtedness in connection therewith, and to pledge, mortgage,
969 and assign the income of the district and its personal property
970 as security therefor, the notes and other evidences of
971 indebtedness to be general obligations only of the district and
972 in no event to constitute an indebtedness for which the faith
973 and credit of the state or any of its revenues are pledged; to
974 make, amend, and repeal rules and regulations not inconsistent
975 with this chapter to carry into effect its purposes and powers.

976 (11) As a condition to the extending of any benefits under
977 this chapter to, or the performance of work upon, any lands not
978 owned or controlled by this state or any of its agencies, the
979 supervisors may require contributions in money, services,
980 materials, or otherwise to any operations conferring such
981 benefits, and may require landowners and occupiers to enter into
982 and perform such agreements or covenants as to the permanent use
983 of such lands as will tend to prevent or control erosion and
984 prevent floodwater and sediment damages thereon.‡

985 (12) No provisions with respect to the acquisition,
986 operation, or disposition of property by public bodies of this

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987 state shall be applicable to a district organized hereunder
988 unless the Legislature shall specifically so state. The property
989 and property rights of every kind and nature acquired by any
990 district organized under the provisions of this chapter shall be
991 exempt from state, county, and other taxation.

992 Section 37. Section 582.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to
993 read:

994 582.29 State agencies to cooperate.—Agencies of this state
995 which shall have jurisdiction over, or be charged with, the
996 administration of any state-owned lands, and of any county, or
997 other governmental subdivision of the state, which shall have
998 jurisdiction over, or be charged with the administration of, any
999 county-owned or other publicly owned lands, lying within the
1000 boundaries of any district organized under this chapter, the
1001 boundaries of another district subject to that district's
1002 approval, or territory not contained within the boundaries of
1003 any district organized under this chapter, shall cooperate to
1004 the fullest extent with the supervisors of such districts in the
1005 effectuation of programs and operations undertaken by the
1006 supervisors under the provisions of this chapter. The
1007 supervisors of such districts shall be given free access to
1008 enter and perform work upon such publicly owned lands. The
1009 provisions of land use regulations adopted shall be in all
1010 respects observed by the agencies administering such publicly
1011 owned lands.

1012 Section 38. Subsection (3) of section 582.30, Florida
1013 Statutes, is amended, and subsections (4) and (5) are added to
1014 that section, to read:

1015 582.30 Discontinuance of districts; referendum;

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1016 commissioner's authority.—

1017 (3) In the alternative, ~~upon review and recommendation of~~
1018 ~~the Soil and Water Conservation Council regarding the continued~~
1019 ~~viability of a district,~~ the Commissioner of Agriculture may
1020 dissolve or discontinue a such district if: ~~the commissioner~~
1021 ~~certifies that the continued operation of the district is not~~
1022 ~~administratively practicable and feasible.~~

1023 (a) Upon review and recommendation of the Soil and Water
1024 Conservation Council, the council determines that the continued
1025 operation of the district is not administratively practicable
1026 and feasible under the provisions of this chapter;

1027 (b) The If A district fails has failed to comply with any
1028 of the audit or and financial reporting requirement requirements
1029 of chapter 189, or fails to comply with any requirement of s.
1030 582.20(1)-(9), and the commissioner, after review and
1031 confirmation by the department's inspector general reviews and
1032 confirms in writing that the district has failed to comply with
1033 such requirement; or, may certify dissolution or discontinuance
1034 of such district without prior review and recommendation of the
1035 Soil and Water Conservation Council.

1036 (c) The department receives a resolution adopted by the
1037 supervisors of the district requesting that the commissioner
1038 issue a certificate determining that the continued operation of
1039 the district is not administratively practicable and feasible
1040 under the provisions of this chapter.

1041 (4) If the requirements for dissolution or discontinuance
1042 of a district are satisfied under subsection (1), subsection
1043 (2), or subsection (3), the department shall publish notice of a
1044 such proposed certification determining that the continued

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1045 operation of the district is not administratively practicable
1046 and feasible under the provisions of this chapter. The notice of
1047 ~~dissolution or discontinuance~~ shall be published once a week for
1048 2 weeks in a newspaper of general circulation within the county
1049 or counties in which ~~wherein~~ the district is located, stating
1050 the name of the district and a general description of the
1051 territory included in the district, and requiring that any
1052 comments or objections to the proposed certification,
1053 ~~dissolution~~ or any claims against the assets of the district,
1054 must be filed with the department clerk not later than 60 days
1055 after following the date of last publication.

1056 (5) (a) Upon expiration of the 60-day period after the date
1057 of last publication, the commissioner, upon review of any
1058 comments or objections received under subsection (4), may issue
1059 a certificate determining that the continued operation of the
1060 district is not administratively practicable and feasible under
1061 the provisions of this chapter.

1062 (b) If the commissioner issues a certificate determining
1063 that the continued operation of a district is not
1064 administratively practicable and feasible under the provisions
1065 of this chapter, the department shall file the original
1066 certificate with the Department of State and shall provide a
1067 copy of the certificate to the supervisors of the district at
1068 the district's principal office designated under s.
1069 582.15(1)(c).

1070 Section 39. Section 582.31, Florida Statutes, is amended to
1071 read:

1072 582.31 Certification of results of referendum;
1073 dissolution.—Upon receipt from the Department of Agriculture and

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1074 Consumer Services of a certification that the department has
1075 determined that the continued operation of the district is not
1076 administratively practicable and feasible, pursuant to the
1077 provisions of this chapter, the supervisors shall forthwith
1078 proceed to terminate the affairs of the district. The
1079 supervisors shall dispose of all property belonging to the
1080 district at public auction and shall pay over the proceeds of
1081 such sale to be converted into the State Treasury, which amount
1082 shall be placed to the credit of the district ~~department~~ for the
1083 purpose of liquidating any legal obligations the said district
1084 may have at the time of its discontinuance. The supervisors
1085 shall thereupon file an application, duly verified, with the
1086 Department of State for the discontinuance of the ~~such~~ district,
1087 and shall transmit with such application the certificate of the
1088 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services setting forth
1089 the determination of the department that the continued operation
1090 of the ~~such~~ district is not administratively practicable and
1091 feasible. The application shall recite that the property of the
1092 district has been disposed of and the proceeds paid over as in
1093 this section provided, and shall set forth a full accounting of
1094 such properties and proceeds of the sale. The Department of
1095 State shall issue to the supervisors a certificate of
1096 dissolution and shall record such certificate in an appropriate
1097 book of record in its office.

1098 Section 40. Section 585.155, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

1099 Section 41. Section 589.03, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

1100 Section 42. Section 589.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to
1101 read:

1102 589.19 Creation of certain state forests; naming of certain

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1103 state forests.—

1104 (1) When the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
1105 Trust Fund, any state agency, or any agency created by state
1106 law, authorized to accept reforestation lands in the name of the
1107 state, approves the recommendations of the Florida Forest
1108 Service ~~Division of Forestry~~ in reference to the acquisition of
1109 land and acquires ~~acquire~~ such land, the ~~said~~ board, state
1110 agency, or agency created by state law, may formally designate
1111 and dedicate any area as a reforestation project, or state
1112 forest, and where so designated and dedicated such area shall be
1113 under the administration of the Florida Forest Service, ~~division~~
1114 which is ~~shall be~~ authorized to manage and administer such ~~said~~
1115 area according to the purpose for which it was designated and
1116 dedicated.

1117 (2) The first state forest acquired by the Board of
1118 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund in Baker County
1119 is to be named the John M. Bethea State Forest. This is to honor
1120 Mr. John M. Bethea who was Florida's fourth state forester and
1121 whose distinguished career in state government spanned 46 years
1122 and who is a native of Baker County.

1123 (3) The state forest managed by the Florida Forest Service
1124 ~~Division of Forestry~~ in Seminole County is to be named the
1125 Charles H. Bronson State Forest to honor Charles H. Bronson, the
1126 tenth Commissioner of Agriculture, for his distinguished
1127 contribution to this state's agriculture and natural resources.

1128 (4) (a) The Florida Forest Service ~~Division of Forestry~~
1129 shall designate one or more areas of state forests as an
1130 "Operation Outdoor Freedom a "Wounded Warrior Special Hunt Area"
1131 to honor wounded veterans and servicemembers. The purpose of

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1132 such designated areas is to provide special outdoor recreational
1133 opportunities for eligible veterans and servicemembers.

1134 (b) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ shall limit guest
1135 admittance to such designated areas to any person who:

1136 1. Is an active duty member of any branch of the United
1137 States Armed Forces and has a combat-related injury as
1138 determined by his or her branch of the United States Armed
1139 Forces; or

1140 2. Is a veteran who served during a period of wartime
1141 service as defined in s. 1.01(14) or peacetime service as
1142 defined in s. 296.02 and:

1143 a. Has a service-connected disability as determined by the
1144 United States Department of Veterans Affairs; or

1145 b. Was discharged or released from military service because
1146 of a disability acquired or aggravated while serving on active
1147 duty.

1148 (c) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ may grant
1149 admittance to such designated areas to a person who is not an
1150 eligible veteran or servicemember for purposes of accompanying
1151 an eligible veteran or servicemember who requires the person's
1152 assistance to use such designated areas.

1153 (d) Funding required for specialized accommodations shall
1154 be provided through the Friends of Florida State Forests Program
1155 created under s. 589.012.

1156 (e) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ may adopt rules to
1157 administer this subsection.

1158 Section 43. Section 589.277, Florida Statutes, is amended
1159 to read:

1160 589.277 Tree planting programs.—

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1161 (1) The ~~Division of Forestry of the~~ Florida Forest Service
1162 ~~Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services~~ shall administer
1163 federal, state, and privately sponsored tree planting programs
1164 designed to assist private rural landowners and urban
1165 communities.

1166 (2) Contributions from governmental and private sources for
1167 tree planting programs may be accepted into the Federal Grants
1168 Trust Fund or the Incidental Trust Fund of the Florida Forest
1169 Service.

1170 (3) The Florida Forest Service shall ~~Division of Forestry~~
1171 ~~is authorized and directed to~~ develop and implement guidelines
1172 and procedures under which the financial resources of the fund
1173 allocated for tree planting programs may be utilized for urban
1174 and rural reforestation.

1175 (4) Grants to municipalities, counties, nonprofit
1176 organizations, and qualifying private landowners may be made
1177 from allocated moneys in the fund for the purpose of purchasing,
1178 planting, and maintaining native tree species.

1179 (5) The Florida Forest Service ~~Division of Forestry~~ shall
1180 assist the Department of Education in developing programs that
1181 teach the importance of trees in the urban, rural, and global
1182 environment.

1183 Section 44. Section 590.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to
1184 read:

1185 590.02 Florida Forest Service; ~~Division~~ powers, authority,
1186 and duties; liability; building structures; Florida Center for
1187 Wildfire and Forest Resources Management Training.—

1188 (1) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ has the following
1189 powers, authority, and duties:

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- 1190 (a) To enforce the provisions of this chapter;
- 1191 (b) To prevent, detect, suppress, and extinguish wildfires
1192 wherever they may occur on public or private land in this state
1193 and to do all things necessary in the exercise of such powers,
1194 authority, and duties;
- 1195 (c) To provide firefighting crews, who shall be under the
1196 control and direction of the Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ and
1197 its designated agents;
- 1198 (d) To appoint center managers, forest area supervisors,
1199 forestry program administrators, a forest protection bureau
1200 chief, a forest protection assistant bureau chief, a field
1201 operations bureau chief, deputy chiefs of field operations,
1202 district managers, forest operations administrators, senior
1203 forest rangers, investigators, forest rangers, firefighter
1204 rotorcraft pilots, and other employees who may, at the Florida
1205 Forest Service's ~~division's~~ discretion, be certified as forestry
1206 firefighters pursuant to s. 633.35(4). Other provisions of law
1207 notwithstanding, center managers, district managers, forest
1208 protection assistant bureau chief, and deputy chiefs of field
1209 operations shall have Selected Exempt Service status in the
1210 state personnel designation;
- 1211 (e) To develop a training curriculum for forestry
1212 firefighters which must contain the basic volunteer structural
1213 fire training course approved by the Florida State Fire College
1214 of the Division of State Fire Marshal and a minimum of 250 hours
1215 of wildfire training;
- 1216 (f) To make rules to accomplish the purposes of this
1217 chapter;
- 1218 (g) To provide fire management services and emergency

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1219 response assistance and to set and charge reasonable fees for
1220 performance of those services. Moneys collected from such fees
1221 shall be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund of the Florida
1222 Forest Service ~~division~~; and

1223 (h) To require all state, regional, and local government
1224 agencies operating aircraft in the vicinity of an ongoing
1225 wildfire to operate in compliance with the applicable state
1226 Wildfire Aviation Plan.

1227 (2) The Florida Forest Service's ~~Division~~ employees, and
1228 the firefighting crews under their control and direction, may
1229 enter upon any lands for the purpose of preventing and
1230 suppressing wildfires and investigating smoke complaints or open
1231 burning not in compliance with authorization and to enforce the
1232 provisions of this chapter.

1233 (3) Employees of the Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ and of
1234 federal, state, and local agencies, and all other persons and
1235 entities that are under contract or agreement with the Florida
1236 Forest Service ~~division~~ to assist in firefighting operations as
1237 well as those entities, called upon by the Florida Forest
1238 Service ~~division~~ to assist in firefighting may, in the
1239 performance of their duties, set counterfires, remove fences and
1240 other obstacles, dig trenches, cut firelines, use water from
1241 public and private sources, and carry on all other customary
1242 activities in the fighting of wildfires without incurring
1243 liability to any person or entity.

1244 (4) (a) The department may build structures, notwithstanding
1245 chapters 216 and 255, not to exceed a cost of \$50,000 per
1246 structure from existing resources on forest lands, federal
1247 excess property, and unneeded existing structures. These

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1248 structures must meet all applicable building codes.

1249 (b) Notwithstanding s. 553.80(1), the department shall
1250 exclusively enforce the Florida Building Code as it pertains to
1251 wildfire and law enforcement facilities under the jurisdiction
1252 of the department.

1253 (5) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ shall organize its
1254 operational units to most effectively prevent, detect, and
1255 suppress wildfires, and to that end, may employ the necessary
1256 personnel to manage its activities in each unit. The Florida
1257 Forest Service ~~division~~ may construct lookout towers, roads,
1258 bridges, firelines, and other facilities and may purchase or
1259 fabricate tools, supplies, and equipment for firefighting. The
1260 Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ may reimburse the public and
1261 private entities that it engages to assist in the suppression of
1262 wildfires for their personnel and equipment, including aircraft.

1263 (6) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ shall undertake
1264 privatization alternatives for fire prevention activities
1265 including constructing fire lines and conducting prescribed
1266 burns and, where appropriate, entering into agreements or
1267 contracts with the private sector to perform such activities.

1268 (7) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ may organize,
1269 staff, equip, and operate the Florida Center for Wildfire and
1270 Forest Resources Management Training. The center shall serve as
1271 a site where fire and forest resource managers can obtain
1272 current knowledge, techniques, skills, and theory as they relate
1273 to their respective disciplines.

1274 (a) The center may establish cooperative efforts involving
1275 federal, state, and local entities; hire appropriate personnel;
1276 and engage others by contract or agreement with or without

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1277 compensation to assist in carrying out the training and
1278 operations of the center.

1279 (b) The center shall provide wildfire suppression training
1280 opportunities for rural fire departments, volunteer fire
1281 departments, and other local fire response units.

1282 (c) The center will focus on curriculum related to, but not
1283 limited to, fuel reduction, an incident management system,
1284 prescribed burning certification, multiple-use land management,
1285 water quality, forest health, environmental education, and
1286 wildfire suppression training for structural firefighters.

1287 (d) The center may assess appropriate fees for food,
1288 lodging, travel, course materials, and supplies in order to meet
1289 its operational costs and may grant free meals, room, and
1290 scholarships to persons and other entities in exchange for
1291 instructional assistance.

1292 (e) An advisory committee consisting of the following
1293 individuals or their designees must review program curriculum,
1294 course content, and scheduling: the director of the Florida
1295 Forest Service ~~Division of Forestry~~; the assistant director of
1296 the Florida Forest Service ~~Division of Forestry~~; the director of
1297 the School of Forest Resources and Conservation of the
1298 University of Florida; the director of the Division of
1299 Recreation and Parks of the Department of Environmental
1300 Protection; the director of the Division of the State Fire
1301 Marshal; the director of the Florida Chapter of The Nature
1302 Conservancy; the executive vice president of the Florida
1303 Forestry Association; the president of the Florida Farm Bureau
1304 Federation; the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife
1305 Conservation Commission; the executive director of a water

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1306 management district as appointed by the Commissioner of
1307 Agriculture; the supervisor of the National Forests in Florida;
1308 the president of the Florida Fire Chief's Association; and the
1309 executive director of the Tall Timbers Research Station.

1310 (8) The Cross City Work Center shall be named the L. Earl
1311 Peterson Forestry Station. This is to honor Mr. L. Earl
1312 Peterson, Florida's sixth state forester, whose distinguished
1313 career in state government has spanned 44 years, and who is a
1314 native of Dixie County.

1315 (9) (a) Notwithstanding ss. 273.055 and 287.16, the
1316 department may retain, transfer, warehouse, bid, destroy, scrap,
1317 or otherwise dispose of surplus equipment and vehicles that are
1318 used for wildland firefighting.

1319 (b) All money received from the disposition of state-owned
1320 equipment and vehicles that are used for wildland firefighting
1321 shall be retained by the department. Money received pursuant to
1322 this section is appropriated for and may be disbursed for the
1323 acquisition of exchange and surplus equipment used for wildland
1324 firefighting, and for all necessary operating expenditures
1325 related to such equipment, in the same fiscal year and the
1326 fiscal year following the disposition. The department shall
1327 maintain records of the accounts into which the money is
1328 deposited.

1329 (10) (a) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ has exclusive
1330 authority to require and issue authorizations for broadcast
1331 burning and agricultural and silvicultural pile burning. An
1332 agency, commission, department, county, municipality, or other
1333 political subdivision of the state may not adopt or enforce
1334 laws, regulations, rules, or policies pertaining to broadcast

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1335 burning or agricultural and silvicultural pile burning unless an
1336 emergency order is declared in accordance with s. 252.38(3).

1337 (b) The Florida Forest Service ~~division~~ may delegate to a
1338 county or municipality its authority, as delegated by the
1339 Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to ss.
1340 403.061(28) and 403.081, to require and issue authorizations for
1341 the burning of yard trash and debris from land clearing
1342 operations in accordance with s. 590.125(6).

1343 Section 45. Subsection (3) of section 597.0021, Florida
1344 Statutes, is amended to read:

1345 597.0021 Legislative intent.—

1346 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature that the
1347 Aquaculture Review Council is and ~~the Aquaculture Interagency~~
1348 ~~Coordinating Council~~ are established to provide a means of
1349 communication between the aquaculture industry and the
1350 regulatory agencies.

1351 Section 46. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (1) of
1352 section 597.003, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1353 597.003 Powers and duties of Department of Agriculture and
1354 Consumer Services.—

1355 (1) The department is hereby designated as the lead agency
1356 in encouraging the development of aquaculture in the state and
1357 shall have and exercise the following functions, powers, and
1358 duties with regard to aquaculture:

1359 (b) Coordinate the development, annual revision, and
1360 implementation of a state aquaculture plan. The plan shall
1361 include prioritized recommendations for research and development
1362 as suggested by the Aquaculture Review Council, ~~the Aquaculture~~
1363 ~~Interagency Coordinating Council~~, and public and private

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1364 institutional research, extension, and service programs.

1365 (d) Provide staff for the Aquaculture Review Council ~~and~~
1366 ~~the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council.~~

1367 Section 47. Paragraph (h) of subsection (1) of section
1368 597.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1369 597.004 Aquaculture certificate of registration.—

1370 (1) CERTIFICATION.—Any person engaging in aquaculture must
1371 be certified by the department. The applicant for a certificate
1372 of registration shall submit the following to the department:

1373 (h) An ~~One hundred dollar~~ annual registration fee of \$100.
1374 The annual registration fee is waived for each elementary,
1375 middle, or high school and each vocational school that
1376 participates in the aquaculture certification program.

1377 Section 48. Subsection (1), paragraphs (a) and (b) of
1378 subsection (2), and paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section
1379 597.005, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1380 597.005 Aquaculture Review Council.—

1381 (1) COMPOSITION.—There is created within the department the
1382 Aquaculture Review Council to consist of eight ~~nine~~ members as
1383 follows: the chair of the State Agricultural Advisory Council or
1384 ~~designee; the chair of the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating~~
1385 ~~Council;~~ and seven additional members to be appointed by the
1386 commissioner, including an alligator farmer, a food fish farmer,
1387 a shellfish farmer, a tropical fish farmer, an aquatic plant
1388 farmer, a representative of the commercial fishing industry, and
1389 a representative of the aquaculture industry at large. Members
1390 shall be appointed for 4-year terms. Each member shall be
1391 selected from no fewer than two or more than three nominees
1392 submitted by recognized statewide organizations representing

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1393 each industry segment or the aquaculture industry at large. In
1394 the absence of nominees, the commissioner shall appoint persons
1395 who otherwise meet the qualifications for appointment to the
1396 council. Members shall serve until their successors are duly
1397 qualified and appointed. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall
1398 be for the unexpired portion of the term.

1399 (2) MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS.—

1400 (a) The members of the council shall meet at least
1401 quarterly; shall elect a chair, a vice chair, and a secretary,
1402 ~~and an industry representative to the Aquaculture Interagency~~
1403 ~~Coordinating Council;~~ and shall use accepted rules of procedure.
1404 The terms of such officers shall be for 1 year.

1405 (b) The council shall meet at the call of its chair, at the
1406 request of a majority of its membership, at the request of the
1407 department, or at such times as may be prescribed by its rules
1408 of procedure. ~~However, the council shall hold a joint annual~~
1409 ~~meeting with the Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council.~~

1410 (3) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The primary responsibilities of the
1411 Aquaculture Review Council are to:

1412 (h) For any problem that cannot be solved through simple
1413 cooperation or negotiation, provide an issue analysis ~~to the~~
1414 ~~Aquaculture Interagency Coordinating Council~~ and to the chairs
1415 of the legislative agriculture appropriations committees. The
1416 analysis shall include, but not be limited to, specific facts
1417 and industry hardships, regulatory provisions, questions
1418 relative to the issue, and suggestions for solving the problem.

1419 Section 49. Section 597.006, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

1420 Section 50. Subsection (3) of section 616.252, Florida
1421 Statutes, is amended to read:

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1422 616.252 Florida State Fair Authority; membership; number,
1423 terms, compensation.—

1424 (3) Members of the authority are not entitled to
1425 compensation for their services as members but shall be
1426 reimbursed by the authority for per diem and travel expenses as
1427 provided in s. 112.061 ~~and may not be reimbursed for travel~~
1428 ~~expenses~~. Except for the nonvoting youth member, each member may
1429 be compensated for any special or full-time service performed in
1430 the authority's behalf as officers or agents of the authority.

1431 Section 51. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 100

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee; and Senators Siplin and Lynn

SUBJECT: Unclaimed Deposits Held By Utilities

DATE: February 7, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiehle	Carter	CU	Favorable
2.	Hinton	Yeatman	EP	Fav/CS
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

The CS requires unclaimed deposits held by utilities be deposited annually into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the Department of Economic Opportunity to supplement funds of the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which are used to assist low-income households in meeting the costs of home heating and cooling bills. These funds are to be administered through the local provider agencies that administer the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

The CS appropriates \$500,000 to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund for the purpose of improving water quality in Silver Springs via remediation actions that reduce the spring's nitrogen loading.

The CS substantially amends section 717.108 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Chapter 717 of the Florida Statutes provides for disposition of unclaimed property. In general, all intangible property, including any income less any lawful charges, which is held in the ordinary

course of the holder's business, is presumed to be unclaimed when the owner fails to claim the property for more than 5 years after the property becomes payable or distributable, unless otherwise provided in the chapter. The time period for utility deposits is different. Any deposit made by a subscriber with a utility to secure payment or any sum paid in advance for utility services to be furnished, including any interest less any lawful charges, that remains unclaimed by the owner for more than 1 year after termination of the services for which the deposit or advance payment was made is presumed unclaimed. Certain types of unclaimed property, including security deposits, having a value of less than \$10 are not to be presumed unclaimed.

Every person holding funds or other property, tangible or intangible, presumed unclaimed and subject to custody as unclaimed property must file an annual report with the Department of Financial Services (DFS or department) that includes information on the identity and last known address of the apparent owner of the property, a description of the property, and the date the property became payable or returnable. At the same time the report is filed, the holder must deliver to the department all unclaimed property required to be reported.

Upon the payment or delivery of property to the department, the state assumes custody and responsibility for the safekeeping of the property. The department is required to use cost-effective means to make at least one active attempt to notify owners of unclaimed property accounts valued at more than \$250 with a reported address or taxpayer identification number. All other apparent owners get indirect or passive notice such as publication of the names of owners in the newspaper, on television, on the Internet, or through other promotional efforts.

Speaking generally, after the receipt of unclaimed property the department sells all non-cash property to the highest bidder at public sale on the Internet or at a specified physical location wherever in the judgment of the department the most favorable market for the property involved exists. The department may decline the highest bid and reoffer the property for sale if in the judgment of the department the bid is insufficient. The department also has the discretion to withhold from sale any unclaimed property that the department deems to be of benefit to the people of the state. Finally, if in the judgment of the department the probable cost of sale exceeds the value of the property, it need not be offered for sale and may be disposed of as the department determines appropriate.

All funds received, including the proceeds from sales, are deposited into the Unclaimed Property Trust Fund. The department is allowed to retain an amount not exceeding \$15 million from which it must make prompt payment of claims it allows and must pay the costs it incurred in administering and enforcing the chapter. All remaining funds received must be deposited into the State School Fund.

The department must record the name and last known address of each person appearing from the holder's reports to be entitled to the unclaimed property in the total amounts of \$5 or greater; the name and the last known address of each insured person or annuitant; and with respect to each policy or contract listed in the report of an insurance corporation, its number, the name of the corporation, and the amount due. Any person claiming an interest in any property delivered to the department may file a claim for the property. The department is required to make a determination on the claim within 90 days. If a claim is determined in favor of the claimant, the

department is to deliver or pay over to the claimant the property or the amount the department actually received or the proceeds if it has been sold by the department.

In January, 2009, the Florida Department of Community Affairs (DCA), in collaboration with the Florida Energy Affordability Coalition, filed a report with the Legislature on affordability of energy in Florida. The report made ten proposals on how to address affordability issues. Among them were a proposal to consider earmarking unclaimed utility deposits to supplement energy affordability assistance and energy efficiency programs rather than escheating the money to the state's general treasury and a proposal to create a state Energy Affordability Trust Fund, to be administered by DCA, charged with receiving and distributing funds such as these for use in low-income energy assistance, weatherization, and energy conservation education initiatives.

In the 2011 Regular Session, the Legislature amended s. 409.508, F.S., to provide that the newly created Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) is to administer the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).¹ This program provides federal money to non-profit agencies and local governments so they can assist low-income families with home heating and cooling costs. DEO applies for funding from the federal government and distributes it directly to local agency providers and non-profit agencies who then determine who will receive assistance. DEO monitors the local agency providers to ensure that they administer the funding in compliance with state and federal laws and rules and provides them technical assistance to help them comply with these requirements.

Silver Springs Water Quality

Silver Springs is located about 6 miles northeast of downtown Ocala and forms the headwaters of the Silver River. Silver Springs is a 1st magnitude spring, meaning it discharges at least 100 cubic feet of water per second, or about 64.6 million gallons per day.² Silver Springs has become an internationally known tourist attraction due to its naturally clear water, healthy submerged aquatic vegetation, abundant fish and other wildlife, and its famous glass bottom boats. In the past several decades, changes have been observed and measured in the Silver Springs hydrological system.³

In 2004, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the U.S. Geological Survey, in cooperation with the St. Johns River Water Management District, Marion County and DEP, published a study of the chemistry of the ground water in the Silver Springs basin. The study concluded that nitrate concentration in the water from the Main Spring has increased with time. Nitrate enrichment of the surface water results in the growth of nuisance vegetation and in oxygen depletion in the water.⁴ Between 2000-2001, 56 wells in the Silver Springs ground-water basin were sampled. The study concluded that the sources of nitrogen in ground water in the Silver Springs basin

¹ Section 302, ch. 2011-142, Laws of Florida.

² <http://apalacheehills.com/springs/Springbook/FirstMagnitude.htm> (last visited February 7, 2012).

³ <http://www.sjrwm.com/springs/marion/silver.html> (last visited February 7, 2012).

⁴ *Chemistry of Ground Water in the Silver Springs Basin, Florida, with an Emphasis on Nitrate*, G.G. Phelps, Scientific Investigations Report 2004-5144, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2004/5144/pdf/sir20045144.pdf> (last visited February 7, 2012).

include atmospheric deposition, fertilizers used in agricultural and urban areas, and human and animal wastes.⁵

The Silver Springs Basin Working Group, established in 1999 to restore the water quality of Silver Springs, has also monitored the changes to Silver Springs. The group reported that nitrates have risen from .04 mg/l in the early part of the 20th century to more than 1.2 mg/l today; more than a 20 fold increase. Increased nutrients create an overabundance of aquatic plants and algae which threaten the remarkable clarity of water at Silver Springs. Also, flow records indicate that the spring flow has declined. Reduced flow enhances the negative impacts of increased nitrates. Less water means higher concentration which will increase algal growth and cause further decline in the health of the spring. Due to the area's continued population growth and land development, the nitrate levels and deterioration of Silver Springs' water quality is predicted to worsen without concentrated efforts to rehabilitate the spring. Further, Silver Springs is a draw for tourists to the area and Marion County's economy would benefit from the health and recovery of the spring.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 of the CS amends s. 717.108, F.S., to require that deposits held by utilities that are classified as unclaimed be transferred to the Department of Economic Opportunity.

Section 2 of the CS appropriates \$500,000 from the unclaimed utility deposits and funds and transfers it from the Department of Economic Opportunity to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection. The funds are to be used to improve water quality in Silver Springs.

Section 2 further directs that the balance of the unclaimed deposits and funds be transferred from the DEO to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund (within DEO) for the purpose of assisting low-income households in meeting the costs of home heating and cooling bills.

Section 3 provides that this act will take effect July 1, 2012.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

⁵ *Id.*

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Unclaimed utility deposits would no longer be available for the owners to reclaim.

There would be additional funding for the LIHEAP program.

C. Government Sector Impact:

According to the Department of Financial Services (DFS), rulemaking likely will be required to implement how and when utilities would report and remit the funds to DEO, and, perhaps, how DFS would handle inquiries from owners no longer entitled to recover unclaimed utility deposits. Rulemaking will likely be required of DEO and the local provider agencies on how the program will be implemented.

DFS also states that administrative changes will be required of business and local governmental entities to separate unclaimed utility deposit accounts from other types of unclaimed property, and report and remit separate annual reports to DFS and to DEO. Both DFS and DEO would be required to change and develop procedures for informing utilities and governmental entities of the changes and how to administer them.

According to DFS, over the last ten fiscal years, the Department of Education State School Trust Fund has received an average of \$4.77 million per year from unclaimed utility deposits. Also, during that same time, 235,683 Florida citizens have received claims payments totaling \$10.7 million in recovered utility deposits. The CS will result in the loss of this revenue to the State School Trust Fund and citizens being unable to recover their utility deposits. The table below sets forth DFS’ data on claims paid over this ten-year period.

Deposits Fiscal Year	Accounts Received	Amount Received	Number of Claims Paid	Amount Paid In Claims
2001-02	14,901	\$2,450,596.56	7,498	\$629,436.09
2002-03	29,390	\$4,217,230.50	22,411	\$1,231,556.72
2003-04	31,026	\$4,112,642.04	21,607	\$1,157,871.66
2004-05	158,730	\$11,885,838.64	62,449	\$1,941,476.89
2005-06	111,697	\$4,981,489.76	31,696	\$1,045,581.88
2006-07	20,181	\$2,326,479.99	12,188	\$651,698.90
2007-08	48,084	\$4,005,122.16	23,918	\$971,275.79
2008-09	55,653	\$4,601,439.16	23,849	\$1,246,702.96
2009-10	37,502	\$4,477,642.88	10,430	\$881,162.85
2010-11	44,230	\$4,723,950.69	19,637	\$944,453.47
Totals:	551,394	\$47,782,432.38	235,683	\$10,701,217.21

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:

- Directs \$500,000 from the unclaimed utility deposits and funds to be transferred from DEO to the Ecosystems Management and Restoration Trust Fund of the DEP to be used for improving water quality in Silver Springs.
- Directs the balance of funds from the unclaimed utility deposits and funds to be transferred to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the DOE.

B. Amendments:

None.



331156

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Dean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 717.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

717.108 Deposits held by utilities.—

(1) Any deposit, including any interest thereon, made by a
subscriber with a utility to secure payment or any sum paid in
advance for utility services to be furnished, less any lawful
charges, that remains unclaimed by the owner for more than 1
year after termination of the services for which the deposit or



331156

13 advance payment was made is presumed unclaimed.

14 (2) The unclaimed utility deposits and funds presumed
15 unclaimed shall be transferred to the Department of Economic
16 Opportunity.

17 Section 2. (1) The sum of \$500,000 from the unclaimed
18 utility deposits and funds presumed unclaimed pursuant to s.
19 717.108, Florida Statutes, shall be transferred from the
20 Department of Economic Opportunity to the Ecosystem Management
21 and Restoration Trust Fund of the Department of Environmental
22 Protection and shall be used for the purpose of improving water
23 quality in Silver Springs. These funds shall be directed to the
24 implementation of remediation actions that have the effect of
25 reducing nitrate loads to the spring. The department shall
26 coordinate with Marion County in identifying and selecting which
27 project has the greatest benefit based on estimated nitrate
28 reductions and consistency with the long-term plans of Marion
29 County.

30 (2) The remaining balance of the unclaimed deposits and
31 funds presumed unclaimed in the Department of Economic
32 Opportunity shall be transferred to the Grants and Donations
33 Trust Fund within the department and used to supplement the Low-
34 Income Home Energy Assistance Program for the purpose of
35 assisting low-income households in meeting the costs of home
36 heating and cooling bills. These funds shall be administered
37 through the same local provider agencies that presently
38 administer the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program.

39 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

40
41 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====



331156

42 And the title is amended as follows:

43

44 Delete everything before the enacting clause

45 and insert:

46

A bill to be entitled

47

An act relating to unclaimed deposits held by

48

utilities; amending s. 717.108, F.S.; requiring that

49

any unclaimed deposits held by a utility be

50

transferred to the Department of Economic Opportunity;

51

requiring that a specified portion of unclaimed

52

deposits be transferred to the Ecosystem Management

53

and Restoration Trust Fund in the Department of

54

Environmental Protection and used to improve the water

55

quality in Silver Springs; requiring that the

56

remaining balance of unclaimed deposits be transferred

57

to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the

58

Department of Economic Opportunity and used to assist

59

low-income households in meeting the costs of home

60

heating and cooling bills; providing an effective

61

date.



838412

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Sobel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 23 - 24
and insert:
Economic Opportunity to supplement funds of the Low-Income Home

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 6 - 7
and insert:
the Department of Economic Opportunity to supplement
the Low-Income Home Energy

By Senator Siplin

19-00014-12

2012100__

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to unclaimed deposits held by
3 utilities; amending s. 717.108, F.S.; requiring that
4 any unclaimed deposits held by a utility be deposited
5 annually into the Grants and Donations Trust Fund in
6 the Department of Community Affairs, or its successor
7 agency, to supplement the Low-Income Home Energy
8 Assistance Program; providing an effective date.
9

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

11
12 Section 1. Section 717.108, Florida Statutes, is amended to
13 read:

14 717.108 Deposits held by utilities.—

15 (1) Any deposit, including any interest thereon, made by a
16 subscriber with a utility to secure payment or any sum paid in
17 advance for utility services to be furnished, less any lawful
18 charges, ~~which that~~ remains unclaimed by the owner for more than
19 1 year after termination of the services for which the deposit
20 or advance payment was made is presumed unclaimed.

21 (2) The unclaimed deposits shall be deposited annually into
22 the Grants and Donations Trust Fund within the Department of
23 Community Affairs, or the Department of Community Affairs'
24 successor agency, to supplement funds of the Low-Income Home
25 Energy Assistance Program which are used to assist low-income
26 households in meeting the costs of home heating and cooling
27 bills. These funds shall be administered through the local
28 provider agencies that administer the Low-Income Home Energy
29 Assistance Program.

19-00014-12

2012100__

30

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

(4)

T.P.

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2.6.12

Meeting Date

Topic TERMAL EFFICIENCY STAS. Bill Number 1032
(if applicable)

Name DAVID COLLEN Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY PKWY, 296 Phone 941-323-2404
Street

SARASOTA FL 34243 E-mail COLLENDAVID@
City State Zip COLLEN

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: SB 1032

INTRODUCER: Senator Benacquisto

SUBJECT: Thermal Efficiency Standards

DATE: January 22, 2012 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiggins	Yeatman	EP	Pre-meeting
2.			BC	
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

The bill requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the applicable water management district to grant a general permit in certain surface water management systems to begin construction, if certain conditions are met, without further action by DEP or the applicable water management district.

The bill provides definitions for “ballasted roof,” “hardscape,” “heat island effect,” “low-sloped roof,” “solar reflectance,” or “reflectance,” and “steep-sloped roof.” The bill establishes minimum thermal efficiency standards for roof coverage for buildings and structures. The bill adds specific minimum reflectance standards for low-sloped roofs, ballasted roofs, and steep-sloped roofs. It mandates that all roof exterior surfaces and roofing materials of a thermal-efficient roof have a minimum reflectance with certification from specified testing entities.

The bill establishes a minimum efficiency standard for hardscapes such as roofs, sidewalks, and parking lots. The bill establishes specific minimum reflectance and testing standards for paving materials.

The bill amends s. 403.814 and s. 553.902, F.S., and creates s. 553.9045 and s. 553.9046, F.S.

II. Present Situation:

A no-notice general permit can be granted for the construction or alteration of minor systems located entirely within uplands, provided that the proposed system meets certain criteria, which

include a total project area of less than 10 acres of which 2 acres are of impervious¹ surface.² The South Florida Water Management District is the only water management district that utilizes this no-notice permit option for areas that utilize a certain ratio of acres of land to impervious surfaces. This type of permit may be utilized for activities that have been determined to have minimal adverse impacts to the water resources of the district, both individually and cumulatively. Miami Dade County Department of Environmental Resource Management or its successor agency must still approve the project.³

Chapter 13 of the Energy Code of the Florida Building Code (FBC), Building Volume, provides for construction standards for energy efficiency in the thermal design and operation of all buildings statewide. The Energy Code is a performance-based code which accounts for improvement in the solar reflectance of specific roof products without imposing a minimum standard for solar reflectance on roofs. Testing to a specific standard is required for demonstrating specific reflectance performance of a roofing product.⁴

According to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the term "heat island effect" describes built up areas that are hotter than nearby rural areas. The annual mean air temperature of a city with 1 million people or more can be 1.8–5.4°F (1–3°C) warmer than its surroundings. In the evening, the difference can be as high as 22°F (12°C). Heat islands can affect communities by increasing summertime peak, energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related illness and mortality, and water quality.⁵

According to the EPA, the extent to which urban areas can benefit from heat island reduction strategies depends on a number of factors—some within and some outside of a community's control. Although prevailing weather patterns, climate, geography, and topography are beyond the influence of local policy, decision makers can select a range of energy-saving strategies that will generate multiple benefits, including vegetation, landscaping, and land use design projects, and improvements to building and road materials.

Trees, vegetation, and green roofs can reduce heating and cooling energy use and associated air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, remove air pollutants, sequester and store carbon, help lower the risk of heat-related illnesses and deaths, improve stormwater control and water quality, reduce noise levels, create habitats, improve aesthetic qualities, and increase property values. Cool roofs can lower cooling energy use, peak electricity demand, air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions, heat-related incidents, and solid waste generation due to less frequent re-roofing. Cool pavements can indirectly help reduce energy consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. Depending on the technology used, cool pavements can improve stormwater

¹ **Impervious surfaces** are mainly artificial structures--such as pavements (roads, sidewalks, driveways and [parking lots](#)) that are covered by impenetrable materials such as [asphalt](#), [concrete](#), [brick](#), and [stone](#)--and [rooftops](#). Soils compacted by urban [development](#) are also highly impervious. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Impervious_surface, (last visited Jan. 22, 2012).

² 40E-400.315, Florida Administrative Code .

³ *Id.*

⁴ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Senate Bill 1032 Analysis (Dec. 9, 2011) (on file with Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁵ United States Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Home, Heat Island Effect, <http://www.epa.gov/hiri/> (last visited Jan. 22, 2012).

management and water quality, increase surface durability, enhance nighttime illumination, and reduce noise.

According to the EPA, using these strategies in combination can enhance their effectiveness. For example, installing a permeable pavement parking lot that includes shade trees can extend the longevity of the pavement and vegetation. Widespread implementation of these strategies also provides additional benefits. For example, a single cool roof will mainly result in benefits to the building owner and occupants. Community-wide cool roof installations, though, will provide savings to the building owner and occupants and to the community at large, as a large number of cool roofs can reduce air temperatures, resulting in multiple benefits associated with cooler summertime air.⁶

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 403.814, F.S., to require that the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the applicable water management districts grant a general permit for the construction, alteration, and maintenance authorizing the construction of certain surface water management systems to proceed without further action by DEP or the water management district.

Section 2 amends s. 553.902, F.S., and provides definitions for the terms “ballasted roof,” “hardscape,” “heat island effect,” “low-sloped roof,” “solar reflectance,” or “reflectance,” and “steep-sloped roof.”

Section 3 creates s. 553.9045, F.S., and provides for a thermal-efficient roof; provides standards for a thermal-efficient roof; requires that roof exterior surfaces and roofing material of a thermal-efficient roof have a minimum solar reflectance; provides testing standards; and provides exceptions.

Section 4 creates s. 553.9046, F.S., defines thermal-efficient hardscapes, and provides default reflectance values for certain paving materials.

Section 5 provides an effective date.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

⁶ United States Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Home, Heat Island Effect, <http://www.epa.gov/hiri/> (last visited Jan. 22, 2012).

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

According to DBPR, the proposed legislation will have a significant fiscal impact on the roofing manufacturers who would be required to retest their products and retool their manufacturing process. DBPR also notes that there is also the potential of limiting the type of roof covering capable of installation in Florida and this is likely to raise the price of roofing products and cost of construction.⁷

The bill will make it difficult for Florida roofing manufacturers to compete with other roofing manufacturers who sell their products in other states because the Florida roofing products will cost more to produce.⁸

C. Government Sector Impact:

The South Florida Water Management District would need to evaluate the proposed permit changes as the established rule is for 10 acre projects not 15 as proposed in the bill. The requirement of only 2 acres (no more than 5 acres) of impervious surface of the 15 acre project may not be a large enough ratio to grant a general permit.

DBPR will have to include the new definitions and requirements into future editions of the Florida Building Code.⁹

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

According to DBPR, the bill conflicts with definitions in existence in the FBC. DPBR states that the bill redefines those terms in a manner that is inconsistent with the FBC and with national standards and model codes. The bill conflicts with the Florida Energy Code by mandating the use of particular types of roofing products, rather than allowing the use of a performance-based

⁷ Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Senate Bill 1032 Analysis (Dec. 9, 2011) (on file with Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

approach to energy conservation that accounts for improvement in the solar reflectance of specific roof products without imposing a minimum standard for solar reflectance on roofs.¹⁰

DBPR states that, with exception to the terms “hardscape” and “heat island effect” which fall outside the technical scope of the FBC, definitions of terms as provided in the proposed legislation are not consistent with those of the FBC or nationally recognized standards and model codes. Although highly reflective roofs may have the potential of saving energy in Florida, DBPR points out that it is questionable whether such savings can be sustained through the life of the roofs. In fact, a roof’s reflectance loses much of its beneficial impact fairly quickly because it gets dirty over time and is seldom cleaned. In addition, the proposed legislation could be perceived as a market restriction of roofing products by favoring a particular product over another.¹¹

According to DBPR, establishing minimum thermal efficiency standard hardscapes for sidewalks, courtyards and parking lots does not fall under the administrative and technical scope of the FBC as established by law. It more properly falls under the business functions of the Department of Transportation and local jurisdiction/ public works departments.¹²

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill’s introducer or the Florida Senate.

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² *Id.*



483824

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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. .
. .
. .
. .

House

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Oelrich) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (12) is added to section 403.814,
Florida Statutes, to read:

403.814 General permits; delegation.—

(12) A general permit shall be granted for the
construction, alteration, and maintenance of a stormwater
management system serving a total project area of up to 15
acres. The construction of such a system may proceed without any
further agency action by the department or water management



483824

13 district if:

14 (a) The total project involves less than 10 acres and less
15 than 2 acres of impervious surface; or

16 The total project involves less than 15 acres and less than
17 3 acres of impervious surface if the hardscape portion of the
18 project has a minimum initial reflectance of 0.30 as certified
19 by the American Society for Testing and Materials ASTM E903 or
20 ASTM E1918 standard or a test using a portable reflectometer at
21 near ambient conditions

22 (b) No activities will impact wetlands or other surface
23 waters;

24 (c) No activities are conducted in, on, or over wetlands or
25 other surface waters;

26 (d) Drainage facilities will not include pipes having
27 diameters greater than 24 inches, or the hydraulic equivalent,
28 and will not use pumps in any manner;

29 (e) The project is not part of a larger common plan,
30 development, or sale.

31 (f) The project does not:

32 1. Cause adverse water quantity or flooding impacts to
33 receiving water and adjacent lands;

34 2. Cause adverse impacts to existing surface water storage
35 and conveyance capabilities;

36 3. Cause a violation of state water quality standards; and

37 4. Cause an adverse impact to the maintenance of surface or
38 ground water levels or surface water flows established pursuant
39 to s. 373.042 or a work of the district established pursuant to
40 s. 373.086; and

41 (g) The surface water management system design plans must



483824

42 be signed and sealed by a Florida registered professional who
43 shall attest that the system will perform and function as
44 proposed and has been designed in accordance with appropriate,
45 generally accepted performance standards and scientific
46 principles.

47 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

48
49 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

50 And the title is amended as follows:

51 Delete everything before the enacting clause
52 and insert:

53 A bill to be entitled
54 An act relating to environmental permits; amending s.
55 403.814, F.S.; requiring that the Department of
56 Environmental Protection and the applicable water
57 management district grant a general permit for the
58 construction, alteration, and maintenance of certain
59 surface water management systems; authorizing the
60 construction of certain surface water management
61 systems to proceed without further action by the
62 department or the water management districts;
63 providing an effective date.

By Senator Benacquisto

27-00589A-12

20121032

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to thermal efficiency standards;
3 amending s. 403.814, F.S.; requiring that the
4 Department of Environmental Protection and the
5 applicable water management district grant a general
6 permit for the construction, alteration, and
7 maintenance of certain surface water management
8 systems; authorizing the construction of certain
9 surface water management systems to proceed without
10 further action by the department or the water
11 management district; reordering and amending s.
12 553.902, F.S.; providing definitions for the terms
13 "ballasted roof," "hardscape," "heat island effect,"
14 "low-sloped roof," "solar reflectance" or
15 "reflectance," and "steeped-sloped roof"; creating s.
16 553.9045, F.S.; providing standards for a thermal-
17 efficient roof; requiring that roof exterior surfaces
18 and roofing material of a thermal-efficient roof have
19 a minimum solar reflectance; providing testing
20 standards; providing exceptions; creating s. 553.9046,
21 F.S.; defining thermal-efficient hardscapes; providing
22 default reflectance values for certain paving
23 materials; providing an effective date.

24
25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

26
27 Section 1. Subsection (12) is added to section 403.814,
28 Florida Statutes, to read:

29 403.814 General permits; delegation.—

27-00589A-12

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30 (12) The department and the applicable water management
31 district shall grant a general permit for the construction,
32 alteration, and maintenance of a surface water management system
33 serving a total project area of up to 10 acres. The
34 construction, alteration, and maintenance of such a system may
35 proceed without any further agency action by the department or
36 water management district if:

37 (a) The total project area is less than 15 acres;

38 (b) The total project area involves less than 2 acres of
39 impervious surface or no more than 5 acres of impervious surface
40 if that surface is a thermal-efficient hardscape as provided in
41 s. 553.9046;

42 (c) The activities do not impact wetlands or other surface
43 waters;

44 (d) The activities are not conducted in, on, or over
45 wetlands or other surface waters;

46 (e) The drainage facilities do not include pipes having
47 diameters greater than 24 inches, or the hydraulic equivalent,
48 and do not use a pump in any manner;

49 (f) The project is not part of a larger common plan,
50 development, or sale;

51 (g) The project does not cause:

52 1. Adverse water quantity impacts or flooding to receiving
53 water and adjacent lands;

54 2. Adverse impacts to existing surface water storage and
55 conveyance capabilities;

56 3. A violation of state water quality standards; or

57 4. Adverse impacts to the maintenance of surface or ground
58 water levels or surface water flows established pursuant to s.

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59 373.042 or to a work of the district conducted pursuant to s.
60 373.086; and

61 (h) The design plans for the surface water management
62 system are signed and sealed by a Florida-registered
63 professional who attests that the system will perform and
64 function as proposed and that it has been designed in accordance
65 with appropriate, generally accepted performance standards and
66 scientific principles.

67 Section 2. Section 553.902, Florida Statutes, is reordered
68 and amended to read:

69 553.902 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term ~~For the~~
70 ~~purposes of this part:~~

71 (3)~~(1)~~ "Exempted building" means:

72 (a) A ~~Any~~ building or portion thereof whose peak design
73 rate of energy usage for all purposes is less than 1 watt (3.4
74 Btu per hour) per square foot of floor area for all purposes.

75 (b) A ~~Any~~ building that ~~which~~ is neither heated nor cooled
76 by a mechanical system designed to control or modify the indoor
77 temperature and powered by electricity or fossil fuels.

78 (c) A ~~Any~~ building for which federal mandatory standards
79 preempt state energy codes.

80 (d) An ~~Any~~ historical building as described in s.
81 267.021(3).

82
83 The Florida Building Commission may recommend to the Legislature
84 additional types of buildings which should be exempted from
85 compliance with the Florida Energy Efficiency Code for Building
86 Construction.

87 (7)~~(2)~~ "HVAC" means a system of heating, ventilating, and

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20121032

88 air-conditioning.

89 (10)~~(3)~~ "Renovated building" means a residential or
90 nonresidential building undergoing alteration that varies or
91 changes insulation, HVAC systems, water heating systems, or
92 exterior envelope conditions, if provided the estimated cost of
93 renovation exceeds 30 percent of the assessed value of the
94 structure.

95 (8)~~(4)~~ "Local enforcement agency" means the agency of local
96 government which has the authority to make inspections of
97 buildings and to enforce the Florida Building Code. It includes
98 any agency within the definition of s. 553.71(5).

99 (4)~~(5)~~ "Exterior envelope physical characteristics" means
100 the physical nature of those elements of a building which
101 enclose conditioned spaces through which energy may be
102 transferred to or from the exterior.

103 (2)~~(6)~~ "Energy performance level" means the indicator of
104 the energy-related performance of a building, including, but not
105 limited to, the levels of insulation, the amount and type of
106 glass, and the HVAC and water heating system efficiencies.

107 (1) "Ballasted roof" means a roof having a minimum of 15
108 pounds per square foot of ballast for the purpose of weighing
109 down a roofing membrane over a substrate to resist wind uplift.
110 For purposes of this subsection, ballast includes, but is not
111 limited to, river rock aggregate and pavers.

112 (5) "Hardscape" means the impervious, nonliving portions of
113 a property's landscaping, including, but not limited to, roads,
114 sidewalks, courtyards, and parking lots.

115 (6) "Heat island effect" means an elevated temperature over
116 an urban area compared to rural areas, typically caused by the

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20121032

117 increased presence of dark, heat-absorbing materials.

118 (9) "Low-sloped roof" means a roof having a slope of rise
119 of 0 units in a horizontal length, up to and including, a roof
120 having a slope of rise of 2 units in a horizontal length of 12
121 units.

122 (11) "Solar reflectance" or "reflectance" means the amount
123 of solar energy reflected by a material.

124 (12) "Steep-sloped roof" means a roof having a slope of
125 rise greater than 2 units in a horizontal length of 12 units.

126 Section 3. Section 553.9045, Florida Statutes, is created
127 to read:

128 553.9045 Thermal-efficient roofs.-

129 (1) Standards for a thermal-efficient roof:

130 (a) A low-sloped roof must have a minimum initial
131 reflectance of 0.72 or a 3-year installed reflectance of 0.5 as
132 determined by the Cool Roof Rating Council or the Energy Star
133 program of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and
134 the United States Department of Energy. If more than 50 percent
135 of the total gross area of the roof is covered with vegetation
136 associated with an extensive or intensive green roof as defined
137 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the
138 purpose of reducing the heat island effect, the remainder of the
139 roof must have a minimum reflectance of 0.30.

140 (b) A ballasted roof must have a minimum initial
141 reflectance of 0.30.

142 (c) A steep-sloped roof must have a minimum initial
143 reflectance of 0.15.

144 (d) A roof that has multiple slopes is subject to the
145 standards applicable to the slope that covers the largest area

27-00589A-12

20121032

146 of the building's footprint.

147 (2) All roof exterior surfaces and roofing materials of a
148 thermal-efficient roof must have a minimum reflectance as
149 certified by one of the following:

150 (a) The American Society for Testing and Materials ASTM
151 E903 or ASTM E1918 standard.

152 (b) A test using a portable reflectometer at near-ambient
153 conditions.

154 (c) The Cool Roof Rating Council.

155 (d) The Energy Star program of the United States
156 Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department
157 of Energy.

158 (3) This section does not apply to:

159 (a) The portion of a roof acting as a substructure for and
160 covered by a rooftop deck.

161 (b) The portion of a roof covered with vegetation
162 associated with an extensive or intensive green roof as defined
163 by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for the
164 purpose of reducing the heat island effect.

165 (c) A rooftop deck covering a maximum of one-third of the
166 rooftop total gross area.

167 (d) An area of the roof covered by photovoltaic and solar
168 equipment.

169 Section 4. Section 553.9046, Florida Statutes, is created
170 to read:

171 553.9046 Thermal-efficient hardscapes.—A thermal-efficient
172 hardscape is the portion of impervious, nonliving improvements
173 of a property's landscaping, including, but not limited to,
174 roads, sidewalks, courtyards, and parking lots which has a

27-00589A-12

20121032__

175 minimum initial reflectance of 0.30 as certified by the American
176 Society for Testing and Materials ASTM E903 or ASTM E1918
177 standard or a test using a portable reflectometer at near-
178 ambient conditions. When measuring the minimum initial
179 reflectance, one of the following reflectance values for paving
180 materials may be used:

- 181 (1) Typical new gray concrete, 0.35.
182 (2) Typical weathered concrete, 0.20.
183 (3) Typical new white concrete, 0.70.
184 (4) Typical weathered white concrete, 0.40.
185 (5) New asphalt, 0.05.
186 (6) Weathered asphalt, 0.10.

187 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

5
2/6/12
Meeting Date

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

#1

Topic Conservation of Wildlife Bill Number SB 1456
Name D. LARRY KILLUM Amendment Barcode _____
Job Title President of Florida Association of Zoos & Aquariums (if applicable)
Address 1101 W. Shook Ave Phone 813-935-8552
Street City State Zip E-mail Larry.Killum@lowryparkzoo.com
Tampa FL 33604

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FAZA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting. S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

#2

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

5
2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic SB 1456 CONSERVATION OF WILDLIFE

Bill Number SB1456
(if applicable)

Name CRAIG PUGH

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/CEO TAMPA'S LOWRY PARK ZOO

Address 1101 W. SLIGH AVE.

Phone 813 244 0141

TAMPA FL 33604
City State Zip

E-mail CRAIG.PUGH@lowryparkzoo.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing LOWRY PARK ZOO

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: SB 1456
 INTRODUCER: Senator Diaz de la Portilla
 SUBJECT: The Conservation of Wildlife
 DATE: February 2, 2012 REVISED: 02/07/12

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiggins	Yeatman	EP	Fav/1 amendment
2.			BC	
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... Statement of Substantial Changes

B. AMENDMENTS..... Technical amendments were recommended

Amendments were recommended

Significant amendments were recommended

I. Summary:

This bill would allow 16 zoos and aquaria that are accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquaria (AZA) and that operate in Florida to seek authorization from the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Trustees) to use state lands to conduct enhanced research in the husbandry, reproductive biology, endocrinology, nutrition, genetics, behavior, health and ecology of native and non-native species of animals and birds. Projects involving mammalian species that are carnivores or primates would be prohibited.

The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) will provide technical assistance to the Trustees in reviewing applications and will adopt rules to administer the new provisions. The Trustees may approve projects that they find are in the best interest of the state.

This bill creates an unnumbered section of law.

II. Present Situation:

Section 253.034(1), F.S., (state owned land; uses) provides that state owned lands shall be managed to “ensure the survival of plant and animal species,” among numerous other purposes.

That section further states that “it is the intent of the Legislature that, where feasible and consistent with the goals of protection and conservation of natural resources associated with lands held in the public trust” the state lands “not designated for single-use purposes ... [should] be managed for multiple-use purposes.”

Multiple-use purposes is defined in s. 253.034(2)(a), F.S., as:

the harmonious and coordinated management of timber, recreation, conservation of fish and wildlife, forage, archaeological and historic sites, habitat and other biological resources, or water resources so that they are utilized in the combination that will best serve the people of the state, making the most judicious use of the land for some or all of these resources and giving consideration to the relative values of the various resources. Where necessary and appropriate for all state-owned lands that are larger than 1,000 acres in project size and are managed for multiple uses, buffers may be formed around any areas that require special protection or have special management needs. Such buffers shall not exceed more than one-half of the total acreage. Multiple uses within a buffer area may be restricted to provide the necessary buffering effect desired. Multiple use in this context includes both uses of land or resources by more than one management entity, which may include private sector land managers. In any case, lands identified as multiple-use lands in the land management plan shall be managed to enhance and conserve the lands and resources for the enjoyment of the people of the state.¹

Section 253.034(5), F.S., specifies that a manager of state conservation lands must submit to the Division of State Lands a land management plan every 10 years. Whenever the manager of conservation lands intends to make “substantive land use or management changes that were not addressed in the approved plan,” the land manager must update the land management plan.

Section 253.034(10), F.S., provides for “additional” uses of conservation lands that include water resource development projects, water development supply projects, stormwater management projects, linear facilities, and sustainable agriculture and forestry. When state lands are used for these purposes, they must meet the following conditions:

- The use must not be inconsistent with the management plan for the lands;
- The use must be compatible with the natural ecosystem and resource values of such lands;
- The proposed use must be appropriately located on such lands where due consideration is given to the use of other available lands;
- The using entity must reasonably compensate the titleholder for the use based on an appropriate measure of value; and
- The use must be consistent with the public interest.

According to FWC, AZA-accredited institutions do not use any state lands for research of the animals in their collections.

¹ Section 253.034(2)(a), F.S.

The Lowry Park Zoo (an AZA-accredited zoo) leased 450 acres from the Southwest Florida Water Management District for a red wolf breeding program for several years, but that project was terminated in 2012.²

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 allows AZA-accredited zoos and aquaria that operate in Florida to apply to the Trustees to use state lands for the purpose of enhanced research in the husbandry, reproductive biology, endocrinology, nutrition, genetics, behavior, health, and ecology of native and non-native species of animals and birds. Projects involving mammalian species that are carnivores or primates would be prohibited.

A zoo or aquarium would apply to the Trustees and the application would be required to include the following information:

- The principals and sponsors of the project;
- A description of the funding and sources of funding that will be used to support the project;
- The size, location, and type of land sought;
- A detailed description of the proposed project; and
- A description of the infrastructure (including buildings, utilities, and roadways) that will be necessary to conduct the project.

The Trustees may approve applications they determine are in the best interest of the state, after considering the following factors:

- Whether the project is consistent with the state's goals for the lands that will be used for the project and whether the project will cause harm to the land or surrounding lands; and
- Whether the project will have a positive economic impact on the state or the communities surrounding the project location.

FWC will provide technical assistance to the Trustees in reviewing the applications, including impacts to native habitats by both animals and infrastructure, carrying capacities of lands, impacts on water quality, and other biological impacts. The FWC will also adopt rules to administer the new provisions of statute.

There are only 16 Florida AZA-accredited institutions, two of which are public aquaria; therefore, a significant volume of applications for projects is unlikely.

All animals in captivity are subject to FWC regulations concerning captive wildlife, as would be those included in these projects. FWC investigators would regularly inspect the locations of the projects to ensure compliance with all captive wildlife laws for the safety of humans and the welfare of the animals.

Section 2 establishes an effective date.

² Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, *Senate Bill 1456*, (Jan. 24, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

According to FWC, the bill could be a large benefit to conservation organizations with a mission to protect species through captive breeding and repatriation programs.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The FWC may experience an increase in workload in order to assist with the review of project applications as well as monitoring sites for compliance. According to FWC, the cost is currently unknown.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

According to the FWC, existing rules and procedures for use of state lands generally address the uses contemplated in this bill. Specifically, where similar activities (e.g., cattle leases) are referenced in conceptual management plans, leases are executed with the lead management agency and approved by the Division of State Lands. The primary difference contemplated in this bill would be the involvement of significant numbers of non-native species. In this regard, the bill could be amended to reference the conservation goals of accredited Florida zoos and aquaria and provide stipulations as to the need to adhere to FWC regulations governing the captive wildlife species in question.³

³ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, *Senate Bill 1456*, (Jan. 24, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

According to the FWC, applications to use state conservation lands titled to the FWC could be deemed incompatible with requirements of federal grant-in-aid laws, which would require either providing replacement lands or funds equal to the value of the lands. To take these few lands out of consideration, an amendment could be offered to clarify that only Trustees-titled land would be considered.

According to the FWC, the bill stipulates that the Board of Trustees shall consider whether the project “is consistent with the state’s goals for the lands” and that there will not be off-site impacts. The former consideration would likely have to be reviewed for consistency in the Conceptual Management Plans for the subject parcels, and, should the Board approve, it may result in the designation of land as surplus. Secondly, impacts to state conservation lands, or surrounding lands, will be related to the size and scope of the activities. Presumably, these details would be included in rules or policy, or in leases or agreements with Division of State Lands. We recommend that any lease include information on (1) the species and numbers of animals to be used; (2) responsibility for recovery of escaped wildlife to prevent harm to humans, damage to the environment and other species, and the establishment of exotic species in Florida; (3) responsibility for removing any structures, facilities, etc., upon the conclusion of specific projects; (4) responsibility for habitat restoration upon the completion of specific projects; (5) requirements to mitigate unanticipated off-site impacts (e.g., erosion, reduced water quality); and (6) compensation to the land manager for the use of the land.⁴

The bill requires the FWC to provide technical assistance to the Trustees in their review of applications for projects. There are other state agencies, however, that manage state conservation lands with goals beyond FWC authority (e.g., water management, botanical conservation, and DACS forestry). In this regard, an amendment might be preferable to have the lead management agency for the lands requested to be used in a project provide technical assistance, with input from all cooperating agencies. Along the same lines, the bill requires the FWC to adopt rules to administer the section, but it may be desirable to have other agencies adopt additional rules for issues not directly related to fish and wildlife.

The bill could impact current uses of the State’s public conservation lands. Specifically, this could reduce public hunting, wildlife viewing, and other recreational opportunities on the FWCs wildlife management areas (as well as impacting planned uses on lands with other lead management agencies), depending on the size and location of any proposed such research facilities. If a project is approved on state conservation lands, there is a strong possibility that the land management plan for the land involved will have to be updated, pursuant to section 253.034(5).⁵

⁴ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, *Senate Bill 1456*, (Jan. 24, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁵ *Id.*

VIII. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

Barcode 771374 by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:

The amendment specifies that zoos must get authorization from the water management districts to use district lands for research. The amendment specifies that a detailed description of the proposed project include containment facilities. The amendment specifies that a plan must include:

- a plan to ensure timely recovery of animals that have escaped due to natural disasters or other unforeseen events; and
- specifies that the governing board of the water management district in conjunction with the Board of Trustees(Trustees) must approve an application.

The Trustees and the water management district must consider whether the project is consistent with the state's goals for the lands that will be used for the projects as described in the approved land management plans. The Trustees must also determine if the project will have a positive economic impact on the state and the communities surrounding the project location. The amendment also specifies that FWC shall provide technical assistance to the Trustees or to the to the water management districts in reviewing each application. (WITH TITLE AMENDMENT)



771374

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

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The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Detert) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. (1) A zoo or aquarium having current accreditation with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and operating a facility in the state may apply to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for authorization to use state lands, or to the governing board of a water management district for authorization to use district lands, for the purpose of conducting enhanced research in husbandry, reproductive biology, endocrinology, nutrition,



771374

13 genetics, behavior, health, and ecology of selected populations
14 of ungulate and avian species.

15 (2) The application must:

16 (a) Provide information relating to the principals and
17 sponsors of the project.

18 (b) Provide a description of the funding and sources of
19 funding that will be used to support the project.

20 (c) Identify the size, proximate location, and type of land
21 sought.

22 (d) Provide a detailed description of the proposed project,
23 including a description of the research to be conducted and the
24 animals that will be used in the research. A project involving
25 mammalian species that are carnivores or primates is prohibited.

26 (e) Provide a description of the infrastructure necessary
27 to conduct the research project, including buildings, utilities,
28 roadways, and containment facilities.

29 (f) Provide a description of a plan to ensure timely
30 recovery of animals that have escaped due to natural disasters
31 or other unforeseen events.

32 (3) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust
33 Fund or the governing board of the water management district may
34 approve the application if it determines that the proposed
35 project is in the best interest of the state. In making its
36 determination, the board of trustees or governing board shall
37 consider:

38 (a) Whether the project is consistent with the state's
39 goals for the lands that will be used for the project, as
40 described in the approved land management plan for those lands,
41 and will not cause harm to the land or the surrounding land.



771374

42 (b) Whether the project, through alliances and
43 relationships with organizations, universities, federal and
44 state agencies, or other members of the Association of Zoos and
45 Aquariums, or otherwise, will have a positive economic impact on
46 the state and the communities surrounding the project location.

47 (4) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
48 provide technical assistance to the Board of Trustees of the
49 Internal Improvement Trust Fund or to the governing board of the
50 water management district in reviewing each application.

51 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

52

53 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

54 And the title is amended as follows:

55 Delete everything before the enacting clause
56 and insert:

57 A bill to be entitled
58 An act relating to conservation of wildlife;
59 authorizing certain zoos and aquariums to apply to the
60 Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust
61 Fund or the governing board of a water management
62 district to use state lands or water management
63 district lands for specified purposes; providing
64 application requirements; providing criteria for the
65 approval of such uses; requiring the Fish and Wildlife
66 Conservation Commission to provide technical
67 assistance in reviewing such applications; providing
68 an effective date.

By Senator Diaz de la Portilla

36-01291-12

20121456__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the conservation of wildlife;
3 providing for certain zoos and aquariums to apply to
4 the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
5 Trust Fund for authorization to use state lands for
6 the purpose of conducting enhanced research; providing
7 information that must be provided in the application;
8 providing criteria that the board must consider in
9 reviewing the application; requiring the Fish and
10 Wildlife Conservation Commission to assist the board
11 and to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14
15 Section 1. (1) A zoo or aquarium having current
16 accreditation with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and
17 operating a facility in the state may apply to the Board of
18 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund for
19 authorization to use state lands for the purpose of conducting
20 enhanced research in husbandry, reproductive biology,
21 endocrinology, nutrition, genetics, behavior, health, and
22 ecology which will ensure healthy wildlife populations for
23 native and foreign species of animals and birds.

24 (2) The application shall:

25 (a) Provide information relating to the principals and
26 sponsors of the project.

27 (b) Provide a description of the funding and the funding
28 sources that will be used to support the project.

29 (c) Identify the size, proximate location, and type of land

36-01291-12

20121456__

30 sought.

31 (d) Provide a detailed description of the proposed project,
32 including a description of the research to be conducted and the
33 animals that will be used in the research. However, a project
34 involving animal species that are carnivores or primates is
35 prohibited.

36 (e) Provide a description of the infrastructure that will
37 be necessary in order to conduct the research project, including
38 buildings, utilities, and roadways.

39 (3) The board of trustees may approve the application if it
40 determines that the proposed project is in the best interest of
41 the state. In making its determination, the board of trustees
42 shall consider:

43 (a) Whether the project is consistent with the state's
44 goals for the lands that will be used for the project and will
45 not cause harm to the land or the surrounding land.

46 (b) Whether the project, through alliances and
47 relationships with organizations, universities, federal and
48 state agencies, or other members of the Association of Zoos and
49 Aquariums, or otherwise, creates a positive economic impact for
50 the state or the communities surrounding the project location.

51 (4) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall
52 provide technical assistance to the Board of Trustees of the
53 Internal Improvement Trust Fund in reviewing each application.

54 (5) The commission shall adopt rules to administer this
55 section.

56 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD



(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Sponsorship of Greenways & Trails

Bill Number 267
(if applicable)

Name Jim Wood

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Chief, Greenways & Trails

Address 3900 Commonwealth Blvd.
Street

Phone 950-245-2052

Tallah FL 32399
City State Zip

E-mail jim.w.wood@dep.state.fl.us

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FORD

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Greenways & Trails

Bill Number SB 0268
(if applicable)

Name John B. Outland

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1562 TUNG Hill Drive

Phone 850-878-6828

Street

Tallahassee FL 32317

City

State

Zip

E-mail outlandjb@hotmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)



THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)



February 6, 2012

Meeting Date

Topic Sponsorship of State Greenways and Trails

Bill Number CS/CS/SB 268
(if applicable)

Name Kent L. Wimmer

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Director of Programs and Policy

Address 5415 SW 13th Street
Street

Phone 850-528-5261

Gainesville FL 32608
City State Zip

E-mail kwimmer@floridatrail.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Trail Association, Inc.

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

6

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD



(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2.15.12

Meeting Date

Topic

GREENWAYS & TRAILS

Bill Number

268

(if applicable)

Name

DAVID CULLEN

Amendment Barcode

(if applicable)

Job Title

Address

1674 UNIVERSITY BLVD

Street

Phone

941.323.2406

SARASOTA

City

FL

State

34243

Zip

E-mail

cullenasea@aol.com

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

Representing

TIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair:

Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:

Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

6



THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12
Meeting Date

Topic Advertising on Greenways/Trails

Bill Number SB 268
(if applicable)

Name Reynald Caleen

Amendment Barcode
(if applicable)

Job Title Board Member

Address 3048 Godfrey Pl.
Street
Tallahassee, FL 32309
City State Zip

Phone 850-593-7733

E-mail ripcalleen@yahoo.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Citizens for Scenic Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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6

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic

Signs / A.D.S. / Naming Greenway ^{or track}

Bill Number

CS/CS/SB 268
(if applicable)

Name

Howard Pandue

Amendment Barcode

(if applicable)

Job Title

Address

809 Maderia Circle

Street

Tallahassee, FL 32312

City

State

Zip

Phone

850 386-1494

E-mail

hpandue@Comcast.net

Speaking:

For

Against

Information

Representing

Self

Appearing at request of Chair:

Yes

No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature:

Yes

No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Greenways and Trails

Bill Number 268
(if applicable)

Name Jon Steverson

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Special Counsel on Policy and Legislative Affairs

Address 3900 Commonwealth Blvd
Street

Phone (950) 245-2140

Tallahassee FL 32399
City State Zip

E-mail: jon.steverson@DEP.state.fl.us

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing DEP

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

II. Present Situation:

Florida Greenways and Trails

The 1979 Legislature enacted ch. 79-110, L.O.F., entitled the Florida Recreational Trails Act (act) of 1979. The purpose of the act was to provide for a network of recreational and scenic trails to be used for hiking, biking, horseback riding, canoeing, and jogging, which were to be designated as the “Florida Recreational Trails System.” The Department of Environmental Protection (department) was encouraged to use areas within and connecting to state parks and forests, national parks and forests, local parks, public rights-of-way, and existing trails.

In 1983, the Florida Trail was designated as the Florida National Scenic Trail. Today, it is a 1,500 mile-long trail, including both National Scenic Trail certified and non-certified miles, which stretches from the Panhandle of Florida to the Big Cypress National Preserve.¹ Portions of the trail are components of the Florida Greenways and Trails program, the successor to the Recreational Trails System.

In 1987, the Florida Rails-to-Trails program was created to provide an emphasis on the acquisition and development of abandoned railroad corridors for use as public recreational trails, as well as to contribute to the preservation of wildlife habitat. Many railroad lines run along river corridors and coastal plains, areas with the most scenic views and productive habitat. Until 1990, the program depended on annual legislative appropriations, but the creation of the Preservation 2000 (P2000) program changed that. The P2000 program was created as a 10-year, \$3 billion bond program to acquire environmentally sensitive lands for conservation, protection, restoration and preservation purposes. The Rails-to-Trails program was provided with \$3.9 million a year in funding under P2000 through 1996.

In 1996, the Florida Legislature enacted ch. 96-389, L.O.F., which renamed the Recreational Trails System Act as the “Florida Greenways and Trails Act,” and provided for a statewide system of greenways and trails for recreational and conservation purposes and uses. A greenway was defined to be a “linear open space established along either a natural corridor, such as a riverfront, stream valley, or ridgeline, or over land along a railroad right-of-way converted to recreational use...” and trails were defined to mean “linear corridors and any adjacent support parcels on land or water providing public access for recreation or authorized alternative modes of transportation.” P2000 funding for Rails-to-Trails was extended through 2000 and was succeeded by funding from the Florida Forever program, as well as other state and federal funding programs.

In 2005, the Florida Legislature enacted ch. 2005-87, L.O.F., to recognize the Florida National Scenic Trail (trail) as Florida’s official statewide non-motorized trail from the Florida Panhandle to the Everglades and the Florida Keys. It further recognized the federal government’s major contributions and the efforts of private landowners, state government and non-profit entities in establishing the trail. Private landowners were encouraged to continue to allow the use of private property for trail purposes, through incentives and liability protection.

¹Florida Trail Association, Hike Florida on Florida’s Own National Scenic Trail, available at <http://www.floridatrail.org> (last visited January 13, 2012).

Presently, s. 260.016, F.S., sets forth general powers that the department may use in managing and overseeing the Florida Greenways and Trails System. These powers include charging user fees or rentals.

The Office of Greenways & Trails (OGT)

OGT provides statewide coordination to establish, expand, and promote Florida's Statewide System of Greenways and Trails. The office manages trails and other lands as key components of the Florida greenways and trails system, and partners with nearly 30 communities that manage state acquired greenways and trails through sublease agreements. It also manages a multi-million dollar capital budget consisting of federal Transportation Enhancement grants and fixed capital funds for the development of trails and facilities on state managed properties.²

Additionally, OGT coordinates with, and provides assistance to, local governments, developers, state and federal agencies, private landowners, and other interested citizens or advocates regarding the acquisition, designation, establishment, and management of greenways and trails projects. OGT works to expand the statewide network through a 1.5-percent annual allocation of Florida Forever funding, about \$4.5 million annually, for acquisition of trails. OGT administers the Recreational Trails Program (RTP), a federally funded competitive grant program providing financial assistance to local communities for the development of trails. Since inception, RTP has assisted communities in 42 Florida counties to establish and expand trails.

Florida's state trails and the Cross Florida Greenway had the highest annual visitation ever in 2009 with more than 4 million visitors, generating an estimated economic impact of \$95 million.³

Florida Trail Association

The Florida Trail Association is a private, non-profit volunteer organization founded in 1966, whose mission is to develop, maintain, promote, and protect a continuous hiking trail that runs the length of the state, as well as the loop and side trails throughout the state.⁴

Outdoor Advertising

With respect to outdoor advertising, ss. 337.407 and 479.11(8), F.S., prohibit advertisement signs from being placed in the right-of-way of any road on the interstate highway system, the federal-aid primary highway system, the State Highway System, or the State Park Road System. Based on these provisions, it appears that greenways and trails are excluded from such regulations, unless otherwise provided.

²Greenways and Trails, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt> (last visited January 13, 2012).

³ See <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/gwt/PDF/OfficeOverview.pdf> (last visited January 13, 2012).

⁴Florida Trail Association, Hike Florida on Florida's Own National Scenic Trail, available at <http://www.floridatrail.org> (last visited January 13, 2012).

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 names this legislation as the “John Anthony Wilson Bicycle Safety Act.” Mr. Wilson⁵ was a veteran firefighter for the city of Boca Raton and a cycling enthusiast who was struck and killed by a motor vehicle in February of 2011 while riding his bike.

Section 2 creates s. 260.0144, F.S., to authorize the department to enter into concession agreements⁶ for naming rights or the display of commercial sponsorship on certain state-owned greenway and trail facilities or property. Specifically, the CS provides the following:

- Authorizes the department to establish a cost for entering into a concession agreement.
- Placement of signage or displays shall conform to the provisions of s. 337.407, F.S., and ch. 479, F.S., and shall be limited to only trailheads or parking areas and designated public access points.
- The size of the signage or display is limited to 16 square feet at trailheads and parking areas and 4 square feet at designated public access points.
- The commercial displays contemplated by the concession agreements are for public relations or advertising purposes for the concessionaires, and therefore, are not to be construed as having any relationship with the department other than as set forth in the terms of the concession agreements.
- Any name or display must be approved by the department before installation.
- The department must ensure that:
 - The size, color, materials, construction, and location of all signs are consistent with the management plan for the property and the standards of the department;
 - Signs do not intrude on natural and historic settings; and
 - Signs contain only a logo selected by the sponsor and the following sponsorship wording: “(Name of the sponsor)...proudly sponsors the costs of maintaining the ...(Name of the greenway or trail).”
- Sponsorships are limited to the following trails and greenways: Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail, Blackwater Heritage Trail, Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail, Nature Coast State Trail, Withlacoochee State Trail, General James A. Van Fleet State Trail, and Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail.
- All costs associated with the signage, including its development, construction, installation, operation, maintenance, and removal, must be borne by the concessionaire.
- A concession agreement must be for a minimum 1-year term unless extended by a multiyear agreement and may be terminated by the department for just cause with 60 days notice to the concessionaire. Just cause for termination shall include, but not be limited to, violation of the terms of the concession agreement or any provision found within this section.
- A concession agreement is not to be construed to grant a proprietary or compensable interest in any sign or display site or location.
- All proceeds from the concession agreements are to be distributed as follows:

⁵ More information about the life of Mr. Wilson is available at <http://www.ci.boca-raton.fl.us/fire/pdf/PressReleases/2011/wilson.pdf> and at <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/hundreds-from-across-florida-gather-to-mourn-boca-1247122.html> (last visited January 13, 2012).

⁶ A concession agreement grants a specific privilege by the government to the other party in the agreement. *See* Black’s Law Dictionary (9th ed. 2009).

- 85 percent to the appropriate department trust fund used for the management and operation of state greenway or trail facilities and properties; and
- 15 percent to the State Transportation Trust Fund for use in the Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education program and the Florida Safe Routes to School program.
- The department is authorized to adopt rules to administer the act.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2012.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. Other Constitutional Issues:

A strict separation of powers doctrine is found in Article II, Section 3 of the Florida Constitution. Accordingly, two tenets encompassing separation of powers are that no branch of government may encroach on another branch's power and that no branch may delegate its constitutionally assigned powers to another branch.⁷ For these reasons, the doctrine of separation of powers is inextricably linked to agency operations and may potentially raise constitutional issues when dealing with statutes that authorize agency action.

⁷ *Fla. Dept. of State v. Martin*, 916 So. 2d 763, 770 (Fla. 2005).

Therefore, “the Legislature may not delegate the power to enact a law or the right to exercise unrestricted discretion in applying the law, but is required to delineate “some minimal standards and guidelines” when authorizing agency actions.⁸ The rationale for this limitation is guided by the belief that “fundamental and primary policy decisions ... [should] be made by members of the Legislature who are elected to perform those tasks ...”⁹ As amended, the agency action authorized by the Legislature in CS/CS/SB 268 will likely satisfy constitutional requirements.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

At this time, the Revenue Estimating Conference has not considered this CS. Therefore, the amount of revenue that might be realized due to this CS cannot be determined.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Indeterminate.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Indeterminate.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee on February 14, 2012 – The CS:

- Removes the option in section two to give the naming rights of the trail to commercial sponsors;
- Limits the occurrence of displays to one large sign (16 sq. ft.) at trailheads and parking areas and one small sign (4 sq. ft.) at each designated public access point;
- Adds the requirements that signs do not intrude on natural and historic settings and contain only a logo selected by the sponsor along with specified sponsorship language; and

⁸ *Sloban v. Fla. Bd. of Pharmacy*, 982 So. 2d 26, 29 (Fla. 1st DCA 2008) (quoting *Chiles v. Children A, B, C, D, E, & F*, 589 So. 2d 260, 264 (Fla. 1991).

⁹ *Martin*, 916 So. 2d at 770.

- Enumerates the seven trails to which the bill applies.

CS by Commerce Committee on January 19, 2012 – The CS:

- Authorized the department to establish a cost for entering into a concession agreement.
- Removed the term “as appropriate” from language that authorizes the department to approve each name and sponsorship display prior to installation.
- Qualified “just cause” by specifying that it shall include, but not be limited to, violation of the terms of the concession agreement or any provision found within this section.
- Made stylistic changes with respect to organization.

CS by Transportation Committee on December 7, 2011 – The CS:

- Changed the word “advertising” to the word “sponsorship” throughout the bill.
- Added mandated compliance with s. 337.407, F.S, and Ch. 479, F.S.
- Added a sixty day notice period should the department choose to end a concession agreement for just cause.
- Added paragraph (5) which clarifies that concession agreements under this section do not create proprietary or compensable interests in any sign or display site or location.
- Changed the allocation of revenue from this section from 90 percent to 85 percent allocated to the appropriate department trust fund; and from 10 percent allocated to district school boards, which must be used to enhance funds for the school district’s bicycle education program or Safe Route to Schools Program prorated by population, to 15 percent allocated to the State Transportation Trust Fund for use in Florida Traffic and Bicycle Safety Education program and the Florida Safe Routes to School program.

B. Amendments:

None.



517104

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/14/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "John Anthony Wilson Bicycle Safety Act."

Section 2. Section 260.0144, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

260.0144 Sponsorship of state greenways and trails.—The department may enter into a concession agreement with a not-for-profit entity or private sector business or entity for commercial sponsorship to be displayed on state greenway and



517104

13 trail facilities or property specified in this section. The
14 department may establish the cost for entering into a concession
15 agreement.

16 (1) A concession agreement shall be administered by the
17 department and must include the requirements found in this
18 section.

19 (2) (a) Space for a commercial sponsorship display may be
20 provided through a concession agreement on certain state-owned
21 greenway or trail facilities or property.

22 (b) Signage or displays erected under this section shall
23 comply with the provisions of s. 337.407 and chapter 479, and
24 shall be limited as follows:

25 1. One large sign or display, not to exceed 16 square feet
26 in area, may be located at each trailhead or parking area.

27 2. One small sign or display, not to exceed 4 square feet
28 in area, may be located at each designated trail public access
29 point.

30 (c) Before installation, each name or sponsorship display
31 must be approved by the department.

32 (d) The department shall ensure that the size, color,
33 materials, construction, and location of all signs are
34 consistent with the management plan for the property and the
35 standards of the department, do not intrude on natural and
36 historic settings, and contain only a logo selected by the
37 sponsor and the following sponsorship wording:

38
39 ...(Name of the sponsor)...proudly sponsors the costs
40 of maintaining the...(Name of the greenway or
41 trail)....



517104

42
43 (e) Sponsored trails and greenways are authorized only at:

44 1. Blackwater Heritage Trail.

45 2. Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail.

46 3. Nature Coast State Trail.

47 4. Withlacoochee State Trail.

48 5. General James A. Van Fleet State Trail.

49 6. Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail.

50 (f) All costs of a display, including development,
51 construction, installation, operation, maintenance, and removal
52 costs, shall be paid by the concessionaire.

53 (3) A concession agreement shall be for a minimum of 1
54 year, but may be for a longer period under a multiyear
55 agreement, and may be terminated for just cause by the
56 department upon 60 days' advance notice. Just cause for
57 termination of a concession agreement includes, but is not
58 limited to, violation of the terms of the concession agreement
59 or any provision of this section.

60 (4) Commercial sponsorship pursuant to a concession
61 agreement is for public relations or advertising purposes of the
62 not-for-profit entity or private sector business or entity, and
63 may not be construed by that not-for-profit entity or private
64 sector business or entity as having a relationship to any other
65 actions of the department.

66 (5) This section does not create a proprietary or
67 compensable interest in any sign, display site, or location.

68 (6) Proceeds from concession agreements shall be
69 distributed as follows:

70 (a) Eighty-five percent shall be deposited into the



517104

71 appropriate department trust fund that is the source of funding
72 for management and operation of state greenway and trail
73 facilities and properties.

74 (b) Fifteen percent shall be deposited into the State
75 Transportation Trust Fund for use in the Traffic and Bicycle
76 Safety Education Program and the Safe Paths to School Program
77 administered by the Department of Transportation.

78 (7) The department may adopt rules to administer this
79 section.

80 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

81
82 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

83 And the title is amended as follows:

84 Delete everything before the enacting clause
85 and insert:

86 A bill to be entitled
87 An act relating to the sponsorship of state greenways
88 and trails; creating the "John Anthony Wilson Bicycle
89 Safety Act"; creating s. 260.0144, F.S.; providing for
90 the Department of Environmental Protection to enter
91 into concession agreements for commercial sponsorship
92 displays to be displayed certain on state greenway and
93 trail facilities or property; providing requirements
94 for concession agreements; specifying which greenways
95 and trails may be included in the sponsorship program;
96 providing for distribution of proceeds from the
97 concession agreements; authorizing the department to
98 adopt rules; providing an effective date.



258276

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
02/14/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Latvala) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment to Amendment (517104) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Delete lines 30 - 41
5 and insert:

6 3. Small signs or displays for the safety enhancement of
7 the greenway and trail user community, upon which the commercial
8 display may not exceed 4 feet in area, may be located on the
9 greenway or trail facility or property. Such signs or displays
10 must be spaced at least one-half mile apart and be equipped with
11 mile markers and geo-tags and may be equipped with first aid
12 kits, 911 call boxes, bicycle air pumps, or other safety



258276

13 enhancements approved by the department.

14 (c) Before installation, each sign or display must be
15 approved by the department.

16 (d) The department shall ensure that the size, color,
17 materials, construction, and location of all signs are
18 consistent with the management plan for the property and the
19 standards of the department, and do not intrude on natural and
20 historic settings.

21
22 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

23 And the title is amended as follows:

24 Delete line 92

25 and insert:

26 displays to be displayed on certain state greenway and



403976

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/14/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Latvala) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment to Amendment (517104) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Delete lines 43 - 49

5 and insert:

6 (e) Sponsored trails and greenways are authorized only at:

7 1. Florida Keys Overseas Heritage Trail.

8 2. Blackwater Heritage Trail.

9 3. Tallahassee-St. Marks Historic Railroad State Trail.

10 4. Nature Coast State Trail.

11 5. Withlacoochee State Trail.

12 6. General James A. Van Fleet State Trail.



403976

13
14
15
16
17
18
19

7. Palatka-Lake Butler State Trail.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 92

and insert:

displays to be displayed on certain state greenway and

By the Committees on Commerce and Tourism; and Transportation;
and Senator Wise

577-02066-12

2012268c2

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the sponsorship of state greenways
3 and trails; creating the "John Anthony Wilson Bicycle
4 Safety Act"; creating s. 260.0144, F.S.; providing for
5 the Department of Environmental Protection to enter
6 into concession agreements for naming rights of state
7 greenway and trail facilities or property or for
8 commercial advertising to be displayed on state
9 greenway and trail facilities or property; providing
10 for distribution of proceeds from such concession
11 agreements; authorizing the department to adopt rules;
12 providing an effective date.

13
14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15
16 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "John Anthony
17 Wilson Bicycle Safety Act."

18 Section 2. Section 260.0144, Florida Statutes, is created
19 to read:

20 260.0144 Sponsorship of state greenways and trails.—The
21 department may enter into a concession agreement with a not-for-
22 profit entity or private sector business or entity for naming
23 rights of state greenway and trail facilities or property or for
24 commercial sponsorship to be displayed on state greenway and
25 trail facilities or property. The department is authorized to
26 establish the cost for entering into a concession agreement.

27 (1) A concession agreement under this section shall be
28 administered by the department and must include the requirements
29 found in this section.

577-02066-12

2012268c2

30 (2) (a) Naming rights or space for a commercial sponsorship
31 display may be provided through a concession agreement on
32 certain state-owned greenway or trail facilities or property.

33 (b) Signage or displays erected under this section shall
34 comply with the provisions of s. 337.407 and chapter 479, and
35 shall be limited to trailheads, trail intersections, directional
36 or distance markers, interpretive exhibits, and parking areas.

37 (c) The size of any sign or display shall be limited as
38 follows:

39 1. A sign or display located at a trailhead or parking area
40 may not exceed 16 square feet.

41 2. All other signs or displays may not exceed 4 square
42 feet.

43 (d) Before installation, each name or sponsorship display
44 must be approved by the department.

45 (e) The department shall set materials and construction
46 standards for all signage displayed.

47 (f) All costs of a display, including its development,
48 construction, installation, operation, maintenance, and removal,
49 shall be paid by the concessionaire.

50 (3) A concession agreement under this section shall be for
51 a minimum of 1 year but may be for a longer period under a
52 multiyear agreement, and may be terminated for just cause by the
53 department with 60 days' advance notice. Just cause for
54 termination of a concession agreement under this section shall
55 include, but is not limited to, violation of the terms of the
56 concession agreement or any provision found within this section.

57 (4) Naming rights of a facility and commercial sponsorship
58 pursuant to a concession agreement under this section are for

577-02066-12

2012268c2

59 public relations or advertising purposes of the not-for-profit
60 entity or private sector business or entity, and shall not be
61 construed by that not-for-profit entity or private sector
62 business or entity as having a relationship to any other actions
63 of the department.

64 (5) This section does not create a proprietary or
65 compensable interest in any sign or display site or location.

66 (6) Proceeds from concession agreements under this section
67 shall be distributed as follows:

68 (a) Eighty-five percent shall be deposited into the
69 appropriate department trust fund that is the source of funding
70 for management and operation of state greenway and trail
71 facilities and properties.

72 (b) Fifteen percent shall be deposited into the State
73 Transportation Trust Fund for use in the Traffic and Bicycle
74 Safety Education Program and the Safe Paths to School Program
75 administered by the Department of Transportation.

76 (7) The department may adopt rules to administer this
77 section.

78 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

7

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/2012

Meeting Date

Topic RECLAIMED WATER

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name JAN MCLEAN

Amendment Barcode 112952
(if applicable)

Job Title ASST. CITY ATTORNEY

Address 315 E. KENNEDY BLVD.

Phone 813-274-8449

Street

TAMPA FL 33602

City

State

Zip

E-mail JAN.MCLEAN@TAMPAGOV.NET

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing CITY OF TAMPA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

1
FEB 6 2012
Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number (1086)
(if applicable)

Name Janet Bowman

Amendment Barcode 112952
(if applicable)

Job Title Dir. of Legislative Policy & Strategies

Address 625 N. Adams Street
Street

Phone 850-251-9406

Tall FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail Janet-Bowman@

Speaking: For Against Information

TNL.org

Representing The Nature Conservancy

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

Waive in Support

1

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number SB 1084
(if applicable)

Name Stephanie Kunkel

Amendment Barcode 112952
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1830 Meriadow Rd.

Phone 850-320-4208

Tallahassee FL 32303
Street City State Zip

E-mail stef.kunkel@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Clean Water Action

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

7

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number SB 1086
(if applicable)

Name Mary Jean Yan

Amendment Barcode 112952
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 3324 Charleston Rd

Phone (850) 519-7859

Tallahassee FL 32309
City State Zip

E-mail maryjeanyan@comcast.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Audubon Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

7
2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic RECLAIMED WATER

Bill Number SB 1086
(if applicable)

Name KEYNA CORY

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title SENIOR LOBBYIST

Address 110 E. COLLEGE AVE

Phone 850 681-1065

Street

TAWAHASSEE FL 32301

E-mail kegnacory@pacconsultants.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FL (AIF)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

7

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed water

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name LEE KILLINGER

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 324 E. Virginia St.
Street

Phone 850-322-8907

Tallahassee FL 32308
City State Zip

E-mail lee@anfieldflorida.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Polk County

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

7

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name Suzanne Goss

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Governmental Relations Specialist

Address 21 W. Church St.
Street

Phone 904-665-8331

Jacksonville FL 32202
City State Zip

E-mail gossSE@jea.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing JEA (electric, water + sewer)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

9

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number 1088
(if applicable)

Name Jon Steverson

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Special Counsel on Policy and Legislative Affairs

Address 3900 Commonwealth Blvd.
Street
Tallahassee FL 32399
City State Zip

Phone (850) 245-2140

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Department of Environmental Protection

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

1

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2.5.12

Meeting Date

Topic RECLAIMED WATER

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY DRIVE

Phone 941-323-2404

Street

SARASOTA FL 34243

City

State

Zip

E-mail cullenase@aol.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

1

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Feb 6 2012

Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name David Childs

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Attorney

Address 119 S. Monroe St

Phone 850 222-7500

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail DAVIDC@H6SLAW.COM

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FWFA Utility Council

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

7

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number 1006
(if applicable)

Name Ryan Matthews

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Leg. Advocate

Address PO Box 1757

Phone 850-222-9684

Tallahassee FL 32302
Street City State Zip

E-mail rmatthews@flcities.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FL League of Cities

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

6 Feb 2012

Meeting Date

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number 1086 (if applicable)

Name Edgar Fernandez

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title Gov. Affairs

Address 3071 SW 38 Ave Street

Phone 786 255 5755

MIAMI FL 33145 City State Zip

E-mail gfernan@miamicity.gov

Speaking: [X] For [] Against [] Information

WATER

Representing MIAMI DAVE WATER + SEWER DEPT

Appearing at request of Chair: [] Yes [X] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [X] Yes [] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic RECLAIMED WATER

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name STEPHEN JAMES

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 100 S. MONROE

Phone 922-4300

Street

TALLAHASSEE FL

E-mail _____

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FLA. ASSOC OF COUNTIES

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

7

2/6/12

Meeting Date

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Topic Reclaimed Water

Bill Number 1086 (if applicable)

Name Frank Bernardino

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title

Address 324 Virginia St. Tallahassee FL 32301

Phone 561/718-2345 E-mail frankcantfield@florida.com

Speaking: [X] For [] Against [] Information

Representing Fla. Section of American Water Works Association

Appearing at request of Chair: [] Yes [X] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [X] Yes [] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/2012

Meeting Date

Topic _____

Bill Number 1086
(if applicable)

Name Leticia M Adams

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Director of Infrastructure & Governance Policy

Address 136 South Bronough Street
Street

Phone 850-544-6866

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail ladams@flchamber.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Chamber of Commerce

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Sponsorship of Greenways & Trails Bill Number 267
(if applicable)

Name Jim Wood Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Chief, Greenways & Trails

Address 3900 Commonwealth Blvd. Phone 950-245-2052
Street

Tallah FL 32399 E-mail jim.w.wood@dep.state.fl.us
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FDOR

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Greenways & Trails

Bill Number SB 0268
(if applicable)

Name John B. Outland

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1562 TUNG Hill Drive

Phone 850-878-6828

Tallahassee FL 32317
City State Zip

E-mail outlandjb@hotmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1086

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senator Garcia

SUBJECT: Reclaimed Water

DATE: February 7, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Uchino	Yeatman	EP	Fav/CS
2.			BC	
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

The Committee Substitute (CS) addresses the regulation and use of reclaimed water: Specifically, the CS:

- defines “reclaimed water” and “reclaimed water distribution system”;
- provides legislative findings related to the use of reclaimed water;
- provides that reclaimed water is an alternative water supply (AWS) and eligible for such funding;
- authorizes specified contract provisions for the development of reclaimed water as an alternative water supply;
- deletes a definition for the term “uncommitted”;
- provides for the determination of uncommitted reclaimed water capacity by certain utilities;
- prohibits water management districts from requiring permits for the use of reclaimed water;
- authorizes permit conditions for certain surface water and groundwater sources in relation to using reclaimed water;
- authorizes water management districts (WMDs) to require the use of reclaimed water under certain conditions;

- prohibits water management districts from requiring or restricting services provided by reuse utilities;
- excludes reuse utilities from providing written reclaimed water feasibility evaluations;
- requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and each WMD to initiate rulemaking to adopt specified revisions to the water resource implementation rule;
- authorizes the DEP to regulate the use of surface water or groundwater to supplement a reclaimed water system;
- expands application of s. 373.250, F.S., to modification of existing consumptive use permits (CUPs); and
- clarifies limitations of the act.

This bill substantially amends ss. 373.019 and 373.250 of the Florida Statutes, and creates an unnumbered section of law.

II. Present Situation:

“Water” and “Waters in the State”

Under current Florida law, “waters in the state” are considered basic public resources benefiting the entire state.¹ The statutes define “water” or “waters in the state” as “all water on or beneath the surface of the ground or in the atmosphere, including natural or artificial watercourses, lakes, ponds, or diffused surface water and water percolating, standing, or flowing beneath the surface of the ground, as well as coastal waters within the jurisdiction of the state.”²

In the “Declaration of Policy” for ch. 373, F.S., the Legislature acknowledges that, in the past, Florida’s water resources were not adequately conserved or otherwise realized for their full beneficial use. In response, the Legislature delegated authority to the DEP and WMDs to sustainably manage water resources.³ To that end, the DEP and WMDs have the authority to allocate water resources throughout the state to meet all reasonable-beneficial uses.⁴ The DEP and the WMDs regulate use of water resources through issuance of consumptive use permits (CUPs) based upon statutory authority contained in ch. 373, F.S., commonly known as the Florida Water Resources Act of 1972.

The DEP defines reclaimed water by rule as water that has received at least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is reused after flowing out of a domestic wastewater (i.e., sewage) treatment facility.⁵ An attempt by St. Johns River WMD in 2008 to adopt rules to regulate reclaimed water through the CUP process illustrates the unresolved question regarding the extent of the DEP’s and the WMDs’ regulatory authority over reclaimed water. The St. Johns River WMD proposed rulemaking that, if adopted, would have included reclaimed water among water regulated by the WMD by general permit for purposes of landscape and agricultural irrigation,

³ Section 373.016(2), F.S.

³ Section 373.016(2), F.S.

³ Section 373.016(2), F.S.

⁴ Section 373.016(4)(a), F.S.

⁵ Rule 62-610.200(48), F.A.C.

by address, time of day, and day of the week.⁶ The Florida League of Cities contested the St. Johns River WMD's delegated legislative authority to promulgate these rules, and, two months after proposing the rulemaking, it decided not to pursue adoption of the regulations.⁷ Nevertheless, the DEP asserts that, although they have not historically done so, the WMDs may require a CUP solely for the use of reclaimed water.⁸

Consumptive Use Permitting

Section 373.236(5), F.S., authorizes CUPs for the development of AWS projects. A WMD or the DEP may impose reasonable conditions as are necessary to assure that such use is consistent with the overall objectives of the issuing WMD or the DEP and is not harmful to the water resources of the area.⁹

A CUP establishes the duration and type of water use as well as the maximum amount that may be withdrawn. Pursuant to s. 373.219, F.S., each CUP must be consistent with the objectives of the issuing WMD or the DEP and may not be harmful to the water resources of the area. To obtain a CUP, an applicant must establish that the proposed use of water satisfies the statutory test, commonly referred to as "the three-prong test." Specifically, the proposed water use must:

- be a "reasonable-beneficial use" as defined in s. 373.019(16), F.S.;
- not interfere with any presently existing legal use of water; and
- be consistent with the public interest.

The Three-Prong Test

"Reasonable-beneficial use" is defined as "the use of water in such quantity as is necessary for economic and efficient utilization for a purpose and in a manner which is both reasonable and consistent with the public interest."¹⁰ The Legislature has declared water a public resource belonging to the public, therefore, wasteful uses of water are not allowed even if there are sufficient resources to meet all other users.

To that end, the DEP has promulgated the Water Resource Implementation Rule that incorporates interpretive criteria for implementing the reasonable-beneficial use standard based on common law and on water management needs.¹¹ These criteria include consideration of the quantity of water requested; the need, purpose, and value of the use; and the suitability of the source. The criteria also consider the extent and amount of harm caused, whether that harm extends to other lands, and the practicality of mitigating that harm by adjusting the quantity or method of use. Particular consideration is given to the use or reuse of lower quality water, and

⁶ See Letter from Suzanne G. Printy, Chief Staff Attorney, The Florida Legislature Joint Administrative Procedures Committee to Thomas M. Beason, General Counsel, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (Dec. 9, 2008).

⁷ Letter from Rebecca A. O'Hara, Legislative Director, Florida League of Cities, Inc. to Suzanne Printy, Chief Staff Attorney, The Florida Legislature Joint Administrative Procedures Committee (Dec. 5, 2009).

⁸ DEP, *House Bill 639 Draft Analysis* (Dec. 1, 2011) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁹ See s. 373.219, F.S.

¹⁰ Section 373.019(16), F.S.

¹¹ See generally Rule 62-40, F.A.C.

the long-term ability of the source to supply water without sustaining harm to the surrounding environment and natural resources.¹²

The second element of the three-prong test protects the rights of existing legal uses of water for the duration of their permits.¹³ New CUPs cannot be issued if they would conflict with an existing legal use. This criterion is only protective of water users that actually withdraw water, not passive users of water resources.¹⁴

The final element of the three-prong test requires water use to be consistent with the “public interest.” While the DEP’s Water Resource Implementation Rule provides criteria for determining the “public interest,” determination of a public interest is made on a case-by-case basis during the permitting process.¹⁵ However, the WMDs and the DEP have broad authority to determine which uses best serve the public interest if there are not sufficient resources to fulfill all applicants’ CUPs. In the event that two or more competing applications are deemed to be equally in the public interest, the WMDs or the DEP gives preference to renewal applications.¹⁶

Reclaimed Water

In an effort to conserve the state’s potable surface and groundwater resources, the statutes authorize the WMDs to restrict water use to the lowest quality water source appropriate for the specific use and to adopt rules that identify preferred water supply sources for consumptive uses.¹⁷ The WMD may consider all economically and technically feasible alternatives to the proposed water source, including alternative water sources – desalination, aquifer storage and recovery, and reuse of nonpotable reclaimed water.¹⁸ Of these enumerated alternative water sources, the Legislature expressly encourages the use of reclaimed water as an alternative water source “whenever practicable.”¹⁹

The DEP defines “reclaimed water” as water that has received at least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is reused after flowing out of a domestic wastewater treatment facility.²⁰ In essence, water reuse involves taking domestic wastewater (i.e., sewage), giving it a high degree of treatment, and using the resulting high-quality reclaimed water for a new, beneficial purpose. Extensive treatment and disinfection during this process ensure that public health and environmental quality are protected.²¹

¹² *Southwest Florida Water Management District v. Charlotte County*, 774 So. 2d 903, 911 (Fla. 2d DCA 2001) (upholding the WMD’s use of criteria for implementing the reasonable-beneficial use standard).

¹³ Section 373.223(1)(b), F.S.

¹⁴ *See Harloff v. City of Sarasota*, 575 So. 2d 1324 (Fla. 2d DCA 1991) (holding a municipal wellfield was an existing legal user and should be afforded protection). In contrast, *see West Coast Regional Water Supply Authority v. Southwest Florida Water Management District*, 89 ER F.A.L.R. 166 (Final Order, Aug. 30, 1989) (holding a farmer who passively relied on a higher water table to grow nonirrigated crops and standing surface water bodies to water cattle was not an existing legal user).

¹⁵ *See generally* Rule 62-40, F.A.C.

¹⁶ *See* s. 373.233, F.S.

¹⁷ *See* s. 373.2234, F.S.

¹⁸ Section 373.223(3)(c), F.S.

¹⁹ Section 373.016(4)(a), F.S.

²⁰ Rule 62-610.200(48), F.A.C.

²¹ DEP, *Water Reuse*, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/reuse/index.htm> (last visited Feb. 3, 2012).

Reclaimed water is an important alternative water source in Florida in light of mounting pressures on the state's fresh water resources, principally surface water and groundwater. The use of reclaimed water saves water that would otherwise need to be withdrawn from surface water and groundwater sources to meet nonpotable supply needs such as agricultural or residential irrigation,²² power generation, or recreation (e.g., golf courses or waterparks). Additionally, reclaiming waste water reduces reliance on traditional wastewater disposal methods such as surface water discharges, ocean outfalls, or deep well injection wells. The DEP asserts that, "Florida is leading the nation – reusing 660 million gallons of reclaimed water each day to conserve freshwater supplies and replenish our rivers, streams, lakes and the aquifer."²³

Section 373.250(2)(c), F.S., authorizes a WMD to require the use of reclaimed water in lieu of surface water or groundwater when the use of uncommitted reclaimed water is available; is environmentally, economically, and technically feasible; and is of such quality and reliability as is necessary to the user. Reclaimed water is presumed to be available to a CUP applicant when a reclaimed water provider has "uncommitted" reclaimed water capacity and there are distribution facilities provided by the utility to the site of the proposed use. Uncommitted reclaimed water is defined as the average amount of reclaimed water produced during the lowest-flow months, less the amount of reclaimed water that a reclaimed water provider is contractually obligated to provide a customer or user. However, by its express terms, this provision does not authorize a WMD to require a provider of reclaimed water to redirect reclaimed water from one user to another or to provide uncommitted water to a specific user if such water is anticipated to be used by the provider, or a different user selected by the provider, within a reasonable amount of time.²⁴

As required in statute and implemented in the DEP's Water Resource Implementation Rule,²⁵ the WMDs must designate water resource caution areas²⁶ within which CUP permit holders are required to use a "reasonable" amount of reclaimed water, unless using it is not "economically, environmentally or technically feasible." For example, the entire St. Johns River WMD has been designated a water resource conservation area, and WMD rules require reclaimed water to be used throughout the district if it is readily available and feasible.²⁷ In contrast, the Northwest Florida WMD has designated only two water resource caution areas – the coastal areas of Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, and Walton Counties and the Upper Telogia Creek Drainage Basin of Gadsden County. Applicants in those two areas who propose to withdraw water from the Floridan aquifer are required to use reclaimed water unless its use is not economically, environmentally, or technically feasible as determined by the WMD.²⁸

Currently, WMD year-round irrigation restrictions do not apply to irrigation with reclaimed water. In recent years, discussions have been held in some WMDs regarding the possibility of

²² In central Florida, for instance, studies have shown that irrigation accounted for 64% of the residential use volume for all monitored homes. (Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, *Florida's Water Survival Handbook for the Future* 60 (2009) (citing Journal of Irrigation and Drainage Engineering, Vol. 133, Issue 5, pp. 427-94 (2007)).)

²³ *Supra* note 24.

²⁴ Section 373.250(2)(a)-(b), F.S.

²⁵ *See generally* Rule 62-40, F.A.C.

²⁶ Water resource caution areas are designated where water supply problems currently exist or are expected to exist within the next 20 years. Section 373.0363, F.S., and Rule 62-40.416, F.A.C.

²⁷ Rule 40C-23.001, F.A.C.

²⁸ Rule 40A-2.802, F.A.C.

imposing restrictions on the use of reclaimed water for irrigation purposes. However, reclaimed water utilities expressed concerns that such restrictions would create operational problems for the utilities, because wastewater flows do not vary according to weather conditions while the need for irrigation does vary. As a result, irrigation restrictions may cause a reuse utility to increase discharges of reclaimed water to surface waters, possibly in violation of the utility's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, or require the construction of expensive storage capacity for the utility's reclaimed water supply.²⁹

For areas outside of designated water resource caution areas, the DEP encourages local governments to implement programs for the use of reclaimed water. Specifically, the WMDs are encouraged to establish incentives, such as longer permit duration and cost-sharing, for local governments and other interested parties to implement programs for reclaimed water use.³⁰ With respect to Florida's "Home Rule Power,"³¹ the provisions of the Water Resource Implementation Rule provide that the rule itself may not preempt any local water reuse programs.³²

Additionally, mandatory reuse zones established by local government ordinance may require a person living within the area to connect when available with any alternative water supply system, including reclaimed water.³³ Mandatory reuse zones have been established in three WMDs – South Florida, Suwannee River and St. Johns River – mostly for irrigation. In the St. Johns River WMD, the conflict between the WMD's authority and the "Home Rule Power" of the local government was resolved by including language in local ordinances requiring reclaimed water use, unless the WMD required otherwise. This allowed the utility to use the most logical, lowest quality source, which sometimes may be another source, such as stormwater.³⁴

Impact Offsets and Substitution Credits

The WMDs are already regulating water use in areas around the state that have experienced the harmful effects of overuse of both surface water and groundwater resources. They use a variety of planning and recovery strategies to manage healthy systems and restore impacted systems. The use of reclaimed water to supplement existing water resources is one tool that can help to sustain and recover water resources. Two concepts surrounding reclaimed water use are "impact offsets" and "substitution credits." Impact offsets are generally considered the use of reclaimed

²⁹ DEP, *House Bill 639 Draft Analysis* (Dec. 1, 2011) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

³⁰ Rule 62-40.416(2), F.A.C.

³¹ In Florida, "Home Rule Power" language was proposed in the 1968 Constitutional revision and was adopted by the people. After several legal challenges, the Florida Legislature adopted the Home Rule Powers Act in 1973, which ended challenges related to city and county powers. The Florida Constitution states in Art. VIII, § 2(b) for municipalities: "Municipalities shall have governmental, corporate and proprietary powers to enable them to conduct municipal government, perform municipal functions and render municipal services, and may exercise power for municipal purposes except as otherwise provided by law."

³² Rule 62-40.416(2), F.A.C.

³³ Section 125.01(k)1., F.S., authorizes counties to: "[p]rovide and regulate waste and sewage collection and disposal, water and alternative water supplies, including, but not limited to, reclaimed water and water from aquifer storage and recovery and desalination systems, and conservation programs."; Section 180.02, F.S., provides that cities that may "create a zone or area by ordinance and to prescribe reasonable regulations requiring all persons or corporations living or doing business within said area to connect, when available, with any ... alternative water supply system, including, ... reclaimed water[.]"

³⁴ DEP, *Connecting Reuse and Water Use: A Report of the Reuse Stakeholders Meetings* (2009), available at http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/reuse/docs/reuse-stake-rpt_0209.pdf (last visited Feb. 3, 2012).

water as an alternative water supply that reduces or eliminates a harmful impact that has or will occur as the result of a surface water or groundwater withdrawal. Substitution credit is the use of reclaimed water that replaces all or part of an existing permitted use of surface water or groundwater within a resource-limited area. Substitution credits may be transferred to a different user or use.³⁵ The South Florida and Southwest Florida WMDs have already adopted rules similar to impact offsets and substitution credits.

The working group that evaluated the use of impact offsets and substitution credits recommended seven key attributes:³⁶

- The terms should have consistent definitions across WMDs.
- Substitution credits must be limited to particular geographic areas for which the water management districts have adopted rules that limit withdrawals from a specified water resource, and that address the applicability and use of substitution credits.
- The substitution credit or impact offset is part of a water use permit; therefore, to obtain and use the credit or offset, all water management district permitting requirements must be met. In addition, the duration of the credit or offset is limited to the duration of the water use permit in which it is incorporated.
- The entity providing the reclaimed water to substitute for an existing withdrawal will receive the substitution credit if it has a demonstrated need for the water.
- Substitution credits recognized in a water use permit cannot be “transferred” to other users, except in the same limited manner as the permit itself.
- There should be a consistent approach in determining the amount of the substitution credit.
- There should be a consistent approach in identifying acceptable impact offsets.

When taken together, these recommendations form the framework of how these additional regulatory tools may function to reduce impacts to surface water and groundwater resources.

Examples of resource-limited areas in which the concept of substitution credits has already been implemented are the Southern Water Use Caution Area in Southwest Florida WMD, the Lower East Coast Everglades and Northern Palm Beach/Loxahatchee River Watershed regions, and the Lake Okeechobee Service Area in South Florida WMD.³⁷ According to the DEP, these WMDs have “formalized mechanisms to allow reclaimed water to be provided as a substitution for groundwater withdrawals, thus allowing another entity to use new or additional groundwater without increasing the overall water withdrawals in a region.”³⁸

Alternative Water Supply Funding

Between fiscal years 2005-2006 and 2007-2008, the Legislature authorized the allocation of over \$217 million among the five WMDs to develop alternative water supply projects. Reclaimed water development projects made up the bulk of project types that were funded over these four years, comprising 202 of the 324 funded projects. Over this period, the funding waned

³⁵ DEP et al., *Purple Paper: Reclaimed Water, Credits, and Offsets* (undated) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ *Id.*, at 2.

³⁸ DEP, *House Bill 639 Draft Analysis* (Dec. 1, 2011) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

significantly. In fiscal year 2005-2006, \$100 million was allocated among the five WMDs, but by fiscal year 2007-2008, that figure dropped to \$5.54 million. The Legislature has not provided any alternative water supply funding at the state level since fiscal year 2008-09.³⁹

Environmental Considerations

The adverse environmental impacts of consumptive water use are essential considerations in the permitting process. Indeed, the Legislature expressly provided that the policy of the State Water Resource Plan is “to preserve natural resources, fish, and wildlife.”⁴⁰ This statute is consistent with Article II, Section 7(a) of the Florida Constitution, which states that “[i]t shall be the policy of the state to conserve and protect its natural resources and scenic beauty. Adequate provision shall be made by law for the abatement of air and water pollution and excessive and unnecessary noise and for the conservation and protection of natural resources.”

Water Needs of Natural Systems

Excessive use of surface water or groundwater may trigger a cascade of adverse environmental impacts including: salt water intrusion that can degrade water quality; changes in salinity levels in estuaries that can kill off oyster and grass beds; “drying out” of wetlands and lakes that can lead to habitat loss; and reduced spring and river flows that can diminish recreational values like fishing or ecotourism, which rely on a robust and biologically diverse ecology. To avoid adverse environmental impacts, the DEP and WMDs are statutorily mandated to establish minimum flow levels (MFLs) for surface and groundwaters which set the threshold at which further withdrawals could significantly harm the water resources or ecology of the area.⁴¹ To date, the five WMDs have collectively adopted over 300 MFLs for water bodies across the state.⁴²

A WMD may deny a CUP because the desired uses are “undesirable because of the nature of the activity or the amount of water required.”⁴³ For example, in *Osceola County v. St. Johns River Water Management District*,⁴⁴ the WMD denied a wellfield permit because of the potential adverse effects of a drawdown of the aquifer on wetlands. The hearing officer found that the predicted drawdown of 0.14 feet could significantly harm herbaceous wetlands, and the applicant was denied a permit because he failed to sufficiently assess those impacts or propose adequate mitigation efforts.⁴⁵

Water Quality Standards

Water quality and pollution is primarily regulated through Florida’s implementation of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA).⁴⁶ The CWA requires states or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to establish water quality standards for surface waters and prohibits the

³⁹ DEP, *Water Project Funding in Florida*, <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/waterprojectfunding/> (last visited Feb. 3, 2012).

⁴⁰ Section 373.016(3)(g), F.S.

⁴¹ Section 373.042(1)(a)-(b), F.S.

⁴² Since 1992, the five WMDs have adopted 322 minimum flow levels or reservations.

⁴³ Section 373.036(4), F.S.

⁴⁴ *Osceola County v. St. Johns River Water Management District*, 92 ER F.A.L.R. 109 (Final Order, June 10, 1992).

⁴⁵ See Richard Hamman, *Consumptive Use Permitting Criteria*, Florida Environmental and Land Use Law. 14.2, 14.2-7 (August 2001).

⁴⁶ 33 U.S.C. s. 1251 et seq.

discharge of any pollutant into navigable waters from a point source, such as a pipe, man-made ditch, or large animal feeding operation, without an NPDES permit. Non-point sources, such as fertilizer and pesticide runoff, are not required to obtain an NPDES permit and are not directly regulated under the CWA. The DEP sought and received authority from the EPA to implement water quality programs in Florida under state laws. Therefore, the DEP now adopts water quality standards subject to EPA approval and administers the NPDES permit program.

Specifically, the CWA requires states to establish water quality standards and review those standards every three years. States must also identify impaired waters that are not meeting established water quality standards and establish total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) of pollutants for those waters. A TMDL is a value of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a body of water can receive and still meet water quality standards. To enforce TMDLs, the DEP establishes water quality-based effluent limitations (WQBELs) and incorporates these limitations into NPDES permits.

TMDLs and WQBELs can be established for a broad range of pollutants. In Florida, particular attention is paid to nutrient levels, principally the levels of nitrogen and phosphorus. While nitrogen and phosphorus are essential for aquatic organisms to live and grow, excessive levels of these nutrients may result in harmful algal blooms, nuisance aquatic weed proliferation, or an imbalance in the natural community of flora and fauna. Unnatural sources of nitrogen and phosphorus include sewage disposal systems (treatment works or septic systems), overflows of storm and sanitary sewers (untreated sewage), agricultural production and irrigation practices, and runoff from urban and agricultural areas.

In 2008 environmental advocacy groups filed suit against the EPA alleging that excessive nutrient levels were impairing Florida's surface waterbodies and that EPA was failing to comply with the CWA by not requiring Florida to adopt more stringent numeric nutrient criteria in lieu of the state's current EPA-approved narrative criteria. Following a determination by the EPA that numeric nutrient criteria were necessary to protect waters in the state and entry of a court-approved settlement agreement, in November, 2010, EPA issued a final rule adopting numeric nutrient criteria for Florida's lakes, springs, and inland flowing waters with the exception of south Florida canals (mostly south of Lake Okeechobee). These rules are scheduled to take effect in March 2012. In response to EPA's final rule, the DEP recently proposed a rule containing numeric nutrient criteria and is proceeding through the rule adoption process. If adopted by the DEP, ratified by the Legislature, and approved by the EPA, DEP's adopted numeric nutrient criteria will replace the criteria in the EPA's final rule.

Unless reclaimed water is extensively treated, it invariably contains nutrients (i.e., nitrogen and phosphorus). When reclaimed water is used for irrigation or discharged into other surface waters, it may eventually flow or seep into an impaired surface waterbody. Therefore, the DEP's authority to regulate the effluent and nutrient levels in reclaimed water is an important component in maintaining chemical, physical, and biological integrity of surface waters. In light of this fact, wastewater treatment facilities that produce reclaimed water for land application must obtain wastewater permits and are subject to treatment standards (e.g., effluent limitations and pH standards), monitoring, and reporting requirements.⁴⁷ Specifically, the DEP may require

⁴⁷ Rule 62-600.530, F.A.C.

additional levels of treatment depending on the ultimate use (beyond the minimum) to protect the potential receiving surface waters from exceeding their established TMDLs.⁴⁸

Reclaimed Water Working Group

The Reclaimed Water Working Group is a collective of several interested parties⁴⁹ that, over the past several years, has convened to discuss the role of reclaimed water in meeting Florida's projected water demands. The working group's express objective was "to optimize the use and continued development of reclaimed water as an alternative water supply to the extent environmentally, technically, and economically feasible in order to meet water supply demands." According to the DEP, portions of the bill reflect the recommendations of the working group.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 373.019, to define "reclaimed water" as "water that has received at least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is reused after flowing out of a domestic wastewater treatment facility." It is the same as the current DEP definition. However, included in this definition is a new prohibition against regulating reclaimed water under s. 373.175, F.S., or ch. 373, part II, F.S., until it has been discharged into "waters" as defined in s. 403.031(13), F.S. The CS also defines "reclaimed water distribution system" as "a network of pipes, pumping facilities, storage facilities, and appurtenances designed to convey and distribute reclaimed water from one or more domestic water treatment facilities to one or more users of reclaimed water."

Section 2 amends s. 373.250, F.S., to limit the DEP's and WMDs' regulation and use of reclaimed water. The bill provides legislative recognition that the state must balance the use of reclaimed water to sustain water resources into the future with the need of reuse utilities to operate and maintain reclaimed water systems in accordance with a variety of circumstances. It clarifies that reclaimed water is an AWS and is eligible for AWS funding. If a reclaimed water project is contracted for by the state or a WMD, it may include any of the four conditions listed under 373.707(9), F.S.:

- metering of reclaimed water for certain uses;
- implementation of certain rate structures;
- implementation of educational programs on water use; and
- development of location data for key reuse facilities.

The bill deletes the definition for "uncommitted," which meant the excess water during the three lowest-flow months after all contractually obligated water was provided to users. Instead, the bill specifies that a reuse utility may determine when it has uncommitted reclaimed water capacity. The bill prohibits the WMDs from requiring a permit for use of reclaimed water. However, a CUP for surface water or groundwater may include conditions that govern the use of those sources in relation to the feasibility or use of reclaimed water.

⁴⁸ Rule 62-600.530(3)(b), F.A.C.

⁴⁹ The Reclaimed Water Working Group consisted of the DEP, the WMDs, Florida Water Environment Association- Utility Council, American Water Works Association, Florida League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, and individual utilities.

The bill authorizes a WMD to require the use of reclaimed water to replace all or a portion of surface water or groundwater use when reclaimed water is available and meets other existing criteria. In addition, the bill prohibits a WMD from directing to whom a reuse utility must provide reclaimed water, or restricting the use of reclaimed water in a CUP, water shortage order, or water shortage emergency unless a reuse utility requests such action.

The bill exempts reuse utilities from having to provide, as part of a reclaimed water use feasibility evaluation for nonpotable use, written documentation addressing the availability of reclaimed water.

The bill directs the DEP to initiate rulemaking to adopt revisions to the water resource implementation rule by October 1, 2012. Within 60 days after the DEP adopt revisions to the rule, the WMDs are directed to initiate rulemaking to incorporate those rule revisions by reference. The revisions must include:

- criteria for the use of a proposed impact offset derived from the use of reclaimed water when a WMD evaluates a CUP application; and
- criteria for the use of substitution credits where a WMD has limited surface water and groundwater withdrawals from a specified resource in a specific geographic area.

As used for the creation of criteria, “impact offset” means, “the use of reclaimed water to reduce or eliminate a harmful impact that has occurred or would otherwise occur as a result of other surface water or groundwater withdrawals.” The bill also defines “substitution credit” as:

the use of reclaimed water to all or a portion of an existing permitted use of resource-limited surface water or groundwater, allowing a different user or use to initiate a withdrawal or increase its withdrawal from the same resource-limited surface water or groundwater source provided that the withdrawal creates no net adverse impact on the limited water resource or creates a net positive impact if required by water management district rule as part of a strategy to protect or recover a water resource.

The bill specifies that s. 373.250, F.S., does not impair a WMD’s ability to regulate the use of surface water or groundwater to supplement a reclaimed water system. Lastly, the bill expands application of this section to all modifications of CUPs. Currently, the section only applies to applications for new CUPs or renewals of existing CUPs.

Section 3 creates an unnumbered section of law that limits application of the act. Specifically, the CS clarifies that the act does not:

- Impair or limit the DEP’s or WMDs’ authority to regulate water quality, including reclaimed water;
- Impair or limit the DEP’s or WMDs’ authority to require a reuse feasibility study;
- Impair or limit the WMD’s authority to conduct regional water supply planning;
- Affect any requirement that may be applicable to AWS funding;
- Affect or limit any applicable provisions related to setting of rates by public and private water utilities; or
- Affect or impair the powers of the Governor to take certain actions.

Sections 4, 5, 6 and 7 amend ss. 373.036, 373.421, 403.813 and 556.102, F.S., respectively, to conform cross-references to the added definitions contained in this CS.

Section 8 provides an effective date of July 1, 2012.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill requires the DEP and WMDs to initiate rulemaking to adopt rules. They have estimated they can meet any additional costs with existing staff and resources.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:

- deletes the definitional change to “water” and “waters in the state” that excluded reclaimed water;
- defines “reclaimed water” and “reclaimed water distribution system”;
- clarifies limitations of the act; and
- conforms cross-references.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill’s introducer or the Florida Senate.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (17) through (26) of section 373.019, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (19) through (28), respectively, and new subsections (17) and (18) are added to that section to read:

373.019 Definitions.—When appearing in this chapter or in any rule, regulation, or order adopted pursuant thereto, the term:

(17) "Reclaimed water" means water that has received at



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13 least secondary treatment and basic disinfection and is reused
14 after flowing out of a domestic wastewater treatment facility.
15 Reclaimed water is not subject to regulation pursuant to s.
16 373.175 or part II of this chapter until it has been discharged
17 into waters as defined in s. 403.031(13).

18 (18) "Reclaimed water distribution system" means a network
19 of pipes, pumping facilities, storage facilities, and
20 appurtenances designed to convey and distribute reclaimed water
21 from one or more domestic wastewater treatment facilities to one
22 or more users of reclaimed water.

23 Section 2. Section 373.250, Florida Statutes, is amended to
24 read:

25 373.250 Reuse of reclaimed water.—

26 (1) (a) The encouragement and promotion of water
27 conservation and reuse of reclaimed water, as defined by the
28 department and used in this chapter, are state objectives and
29 considered to be in the public interest. The Legislature finds
30 that the use of reclaimed water provided by domestic wastewater
31 treatment plants permitted and operated under a reuse program
32 approved by the department is environmentally acceptable and not
33 a threat to public health and safety.

34 (b) The Legislature recognizes that the interest of the
35 state to sustain water resources for the future through the use
36 of reclaimed water must be balanced with the need of reuse
37 utilities to operate and manage reclaimed water systems in
38 accordance with a variety and range of circumstances, including
39 regulatory and financial considerations, which influence the
40 development and operation of reclaimed water systems across the
41 state.



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42 (2) Reclaimed water is an alternative water supply as
43 defined in s. 373.019(1) and is eligible for alternative water
44 supply funding. A contract for state or district funding
45 assistance for the development of reclaimed water as an
46 alternative water supply may include provisions listed under s.
47 373.707(9). The use of reclaimed water may not be excluded from
48 regional water supply planning under s. 373.709.

49 ~~(3)-(2)(a) For purposes of this section, "uncommitted" means~~
50 ~~the average amount of reclaimed water produced during the three~~
51 ~~lowest flow months minus the amount of reclaimed water that a~~
52 ~~reclaimed water provider is contractually obligated to provide~~
53 ~~to a customer or user.~~

54 ~~(b)~~ Reclaimed water may be presumed available to a
55 consumptive use permit applicant when a utility exists which
56 provides reclaimed water, which has determined that it has
57 uncommitted reclaimed water capacity, and which has distribution
58 facilities, which are initially provided by the utility at its
59 cost, to the site of the affected applicant's proposed use.

60 (b) A water management district may not require a permit
61 for the use of reclaimed water. However, when a use includes
62 surface water or groundwater, the permit for such sources may
63 include conditions that govern the use of the permitted sources
64 in relation to the feasibility or use of reclaimed water.

65 (c) A water management district may require the use of
66 reclaimed water in lieu of all or a portion of a proposed use of
67 surface water or groundwater by an applicant when the use of
68 ~~uncommitted~~ reclaimed water is available; is environmentally,
69 economically, and technically feasible; and is of such quality
70 and reliability as is necessary to the user. However, a water



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71 management district may neither specify any user to whom the
72 reuse utility must provide reclaimed water nor restrict the use
73 of reclaimed water provided by a reuse utility to a customer in
74 a permit or, unless requested by the reuse utility, in a water
75 shortage order or water shortage emergency order ~~this paragraph~~
76 ~~does not authorize a water management district to require a~~
77 ~~provider of reclaimed water to redirect reclaimed water from one~~
78 ~~user to another or to provide uncommitted water to a specific~~
79 ~~user if such water is anticipated to be used by the provider, or~~
80 ~~a different user selected by the provider, within a reasonable~~
81 ~~amount of time.~~

82 (d) The South Florida Water Management District shall
83 require the use of reclaimed water made available by the
84 elimination of wastewater ocean outfall discharges as provided
85 for in s. 403.086(9) in lieu of surface water or groundwater
86 when the use of ~~uncommitted~~ reclaimed water is available; is
87 environmentally, economically, and technically feasible; and is
88 of such quality and reliability as is necessary to the user.
89 Such reclaimed water may also be required in lieu of other
90 alternative sources. In determining whether ~~or not~~ to require
91 such reclaimed water in lieu of other alternative sources, the
92 water management district shall consider existing infrastructure
93 investments in place or obligated to be constructed by an
94 executed contract or similar binding agreement as of July 1,
95 2011, for the development of other alternative sources.

96 (4) ~~(3)~~ The water management district shall, in consultation
97 with the department, adopt rules to implement this section. Such
98 rules shall include, but not be limited to:

99 (a) Provisions to permit use of water from other sources in



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100 emergency situations or if reclaimed water becomes unavailable,
101 for the duration of the emergency or the unavailability of
102 reclaimed water. These provisions shall also specify the method
103 for establishing the quantity of water to be set aside for use
104 in emergencies or when reclaimed water becomes unavailable. The
105 amount set aside is subject to periodic review and revision. The
106 methodology shall take into account the risk that reclaimed
107 water may not be available in the future, the risk that other
108 sources may be fully allocated to other uses in the future, the
109 nature of the uses served with reclaimed water, the extent to
110 which the applicant intends to rely upon reclaimed water, and
111 the extent of economic harm which may result if other sources
112 are not available to replace the reclaimed water. It is the
113 intent of this paragraph to ensure that users of reclaimed water
114 have the same access to ground or surface water and will
115 otherwise be treated in the same manner as other users of the
116 same class not relying on reclaimed water.

117 ~~(b) A water management district shall not adopt any rule~~
118 ~~which gives preference to users within any class of use~~
119 ~~established under s. 373.246 who do not use reclaimed water over~~
120 ~~users within the same class who use reclaimed water.~~

121 (b)(e) Provisions to require permit applicants that are not
122 reuse utilities to provide, as part of their reclaimed water
123 feasibility evaluation for a nonpotable use, written
124 documentation from a reuse utility addressing the availability
125 of reclaimed water. This requirement shall apply when the
126 applicant's proposed use is within an area that is or may be
127 served with reclaimed water by a reuse utility within a 5-year
128 horizon, as established by the reuse utility and provided to the



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129 district. If the applicable reuse utility fails to respond or
130 does not provide the information required under paragraph (c)
131 ~~(d)~~ within 30 days after receipt of the request, the applicant
132 shall provide to the district a copy of the written request and
133 a statement that the utility failed to provide the requested
134 information. The district is not required to adopt, by rule, the
135 area where written documentation from a reuse utility is
136 required, but the district shall publish the area, and any
137 updates thereto, on the district's website. This paragraph may
138 not be construed to limit the ability of a district to require
139 the use of reclaimed water or to limit a utility's ability to
140 plan reclaimed water infrastructure.

141 (c) ~~(d)~~ Provisions specifying the content of the
142 documentation required in paragraph (b) ~~(e)~~, including
143 sufficient information regarding the availability and costs
144 associated with the connection to and the use of reclaimed
145 water, to facilitate the permit applicant's reclaimed water
146 feasibility evaluation.

147 A water management district may not adopt any rule that
148 gives preference to users within any class of use established
149 under s. 373.246 who do not use reclaimed water over users
150 within the same class who use reclaimed water.

151 (5) (a) No later than October 1, 2012, the department shall
152 initiate rulemaking to adopt revisions to the water resource
153 implementation rule, as defined in s. 373.019(23), which shall
154 include:

155 1. Criteria for the use of a proposed impact offset derived
156 from the use of reclaimed water when a water management district
157 evaluates an application for a consumptive use permit. As used



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158 in this subparagraph, the term "impact offset" means the use of
159 reclaimed water to reduce or eliminate a harmful impact that has
160 occurred or would otherwise occur as a result of other surface
161 water or groundwater withdrawals.

162 2. Criteria for the use of substitution credits where a
163 water management district has adopted rules establishing
164 withdrawal limits from a specified water resource within a
165 defined geographic area. As used in this subparagraph, the term
166 "substitution credit" means the use of reclaimed water to
167 replace all or a portion of an existing permitted use of
168 resource-limited surface water or groundwater, allowing a
169 different user or use to initiate a withdrawal or increase its
170 withdrawal from the same resource-limited surface water or
171 groundwater source provided that the withdrawal creates no net
172 adverse impact on the limited water resource or creates a net
173 positive impact if required by water management district rule as
174 part of a strategy to protect or recover a water resource.

175 (b) Within 60 days after the final adoption by the
176 department of the revisions to the water resource implementation
177 rule required under paragraph (a), each water management
178 district shall initiate rulemaking to incorporate those
179 revisions by reference into the rules of the district.

180 (6)(4) Reuse utilities and the applicable water management
181 district or districts are encouraged to periodically coordinate
182 and share information concerning the status of reclaimed water
183 distribution system construction, the availability of reclaimed
184 water supplies, and existing consumptive use permits in areas
185 served by the reuse utility.

186 (7)(5) ~~Nothing in~~ This section does not impair or limit the



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187 authority of shall impair a water management district district's
188 authority to plan for and regulate consumptive uses of water
189 under this chapter or regulate the use of surface water or
190 groundwater to supplement a reclaimed water system.

191 (8) (6) This section applies to applications for new
192 consumptive use permits and renewals and modifications of
193 existing consumptive use permits.

194 Section 3. This act does not:

195 (1) Impair or limit the authority of the Department of
196 Environmental Protection to regulate water quality, including
197 reclaimed water, pursuant to chapter 403, Florida Statutes, or
198 to require a reuse feasibility study pursuant to s. 403.064,
199 Florida Statutes.

200 (2) Impair or limit the authority of a water management
201 district to conduct regional water supply planning pursuant to
202 chapter 373, Florida Statutes.

203 (3) Affect any requirement that may be applicable to
204 funding of alternative water supply development, including
205 reclaimed water, pursuant to s. 373.707, Florida Statutes.

206 (4) Affect or limit any applicable provisions regarding the
207 setting of rates by public and private water utilities pursuant
208 to chapter 153, Florida Statutes, chapter 180, Florida Statutes,
209 or s. 367.081, Florida Statutes.

210 (5) Affect or impair the powers of the Governor under
211 the constitution, statutory laws, including but not limited to
212 chapter 14, Florida Statutes and police powers to promulgate and
213 enforce emergency rules, regulations, and orders.

214 Section 4. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section
215 373.036, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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216 373.036 Florida water plan; district water management
217 plans.—

218 (1) FLORIDA WATER PLAN.—In cooperation with the water
219 management districts, regional water supply authorities, and
220 others, the department shall develop the Florida water plan. The
221 Florida water plan shall include, but not be limited to:

222 (d) Goals, objectives, and guidance for the development and
223 review of programs, rules, and plans relating to water
224 resources, based on statutory policies and directives. The state
225 water policy rule, renamed the water resource implementation
226 rule pursuant to s. 373.019(25)~~(23)~~, shall serve as this part of
227 the plan. Amendments or additions to this part of the Florida
228 water plan shall be adopted by the department as part of the
229 water resource implementation rule. In accordance with s.
230 373.114, the department shall review rules of the water
231 management districts for consistency with this rule. Amendments
232 to the water resource implementation rule must be adopted by the
233 secretary of the department and be submitted to the President of
234 the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives
235 within 7 days after publication in the Florida Administrative
236 Weekly. Amendments shall not become effective until the
237 conclusion of the next regular session of the Legislature
238 following their adoption.

239 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 373.421, Florida
240 Statutes, is amended to read:

241 373.421 Delineation methods; formal determinations.—

242 (1) The Environmental Regulation Commission shall adopt a
243 unified statewide methodology for the delineation of the extent
244 of wetlands as defined in s. 373.019(25). This methodology shall



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245 consider regional differences in the types of soils and
246 vegetation that may serve as indicators of the extent of
247 wetlands. This methodology shall also include provisions for
248 determining the extent of surface waters other than wetlands for
249 the purposes of regulation under s. 373.414. This methodology
250 shall not become effective until ratified by the Legislature.
251 Subsequent to legislative ratification, the wetland definition
252 in s. 373.019 (27) ~~(25)~~ and the adopted wetland methodology shall
253 be binding on the department, the water management districts,
254 local governments, and any other governmental entities. Upon
255 ratification of such wetland methodology, the Legislature
256 preempts the authority of any water management district, state
257 or regional agency, or local government to define wetlands or
258 develop a delineation methodology to implement the definition
259 and determines that the exclusive definition and delineation
260 methodology for wetlands shall be that established pursuant to
261 s. 373.019 (27) ~~(25)~~ and this section. Upon such legislative
262 ratification, any existing wetlands definition or wetland
263 delineation methodology shall be superseded by the wetland
264 definition and delineation methodology established pursuant to
265 this chapter. Subsequent to legislative ratification, a
266 delineation of the extent of a surface water or wetland by the
267 department or a water management district, pursuant to a formal
268 determination under subsection (2), or pursuant to a permit
269 issued under this part in which the delineation was field-
270 verified by the permitting agency and specifically approved in
271 the permit, shall be binding on all other governmental entities
272 for the duration of the formal determination or permit. All
273 existing rules and methodologies of the department, the water



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274 management districts, and local governments, regarding surface
275 water or wetland definition and delineation shall remain in full
276 force and effect until the common methodology rule becomes
277 effective. However, this shall not be construed to limit any
278 power of the department, the water management districts, and
279 local governments to amend or adopt a surface water or wetland
280 definition or delineation methodology until the common
281 methodology rule becomes effective.

282 Section 6. Paragraph (r) of subsection (1) of section
283 403.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

284 403.813 Permits issued at district centers; exceptions.—

285 (1) A permit is not required under this chapter, chapter
286 373, chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or chapter 25214 or
287 chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, for activities associated
288 with the following types of projects; however, except as
289 otherwise provided in this subsection, nothing in this
290 subsection relieves an applicant from any requirement to obtain
291 permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees
292 of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or any water management
293 district in its governmental or proprietary capacity or from
294 complying with applicable local pollution control programs
295 authorized under this chapter or other requirements of county
296 and municipal governments:

297 (r) The removal of aquatic plants, the removal of tussocks,
298 the associated replanting of indigenous aquatic plants, and the
299 associated removal from lakes of organic detrital material when
300 such planting or removal is performed and authorized by permit
301 or exemption granted under s. 369.20 or s. 369.25, provided
302 that:



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303 1. Organic detrital material that exists on the surface of
304 natural mineral substrate shall be allowed to be removed to a
305 depth of 3 feet or to the natural mineral substrate, whichever
306 is less;

307 2. All material removed pursuant to this paragraph shall be
308 deposited in an upland site in a manner that will prevent the
309 reintroduction of the material into waters in the state except
310 when spoil material is permitted to be used to create wildlife
311 islands in freshwater bodies of the state when a governmental
312 entity is permitted pursuant to s. 369.20 to create such islands
313 as a part of a restoration or enhancement project;

314 3. All activities are performed in a manner consistent with
315 state water quality standards; and

316 4. No activities under this exemption are conducted in
317 wetland areas, as defined by s. 373.019(27)~~(25)~~, which are
318 supported by a natural soil as shown in applicable United States
319 Department of Agriculture county soil surveys, except when a
320 governmental entity is permitted pursuant to s. 369.20 to
321 conduct such activities as a part of a restoration or
322 enhancement project.

323
324 The department may not adopt implementing rules for this
325 paragraph, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

326 Section 7. Subsection (6) of section 556.102, Florida
327 Statutes, is amended to read:

328 556.102 Definitions.—As used in this act:

329 (6) "Excavate" or "excavation" means any manmade cut,
330 cavity, trench, or depression in the earth's surface, formed by
331 removal of earth, intended to change the grade or level of land,



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332 or intended to penetrate or disturb the surface of the earth,
333 including land beneath the waters of the state, as defined in s.
334 373.019(22)~~(20)~~, and the term includes pipe bursting and
335 directional drilling or boring from one point to another point
336 beneath the surface of the earth, or other trenchless
337 technologies.

338 Section 8. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.
339

340
341 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

342 And the title is amended as follows:

343 Delete everything before the enacting clause
344 and insert:

345 A bill to be entitled

346 An act relating to reclaimed water; amending s. 373.019,
347 F.S.; defining the terms "reclaimed water" and "reclaimed water
348 distribution system"; amending s. 373.250, F.S.; providing
349 legislative findings relating to the use of reclaimed water;
350 providing that reclaimed water is an alternative water supply
351 and eligible for such funding; authorizing specified contract
352 provisions for the development of reclaimed water as an
353 alternative water supply; prohibiting the exclusion of reclaimed
354 water for consideration in regional water supply planning;
355 deleting a definition for the term "uncommitted"; providing for
356 the determination of uncommitted reclaimed water capacity by
357 certain utilities; prohibiting water management districts from
358 requiring permits for the use of reclaimed water; authorizing
359 permit conditions for certain surface water and groundwater
360 sources; authorizing water management districts to require the



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361 use of reclaimed water under certain conditions; prohibiting
362 water management districts from requiring or restricting
363 services provided by reuse utilities; providing an exception;
364 clarifying which permit applicants are required to submit
365 certain information; requiring the Department of Environmental
366 Protection and each water management district to initiate
367 rulemaking to adopt specified revisions to the water resource
368 implementation rule; revising applicability; providing for
369 construction of the act; amending ss. 373.036, 373.421, 403.813,
370 and 556.102, F.S.; conforming cross-references to changes made
371 by the act; providing an effective date.
372

By Senator Garcia

40-00718A-12

20121086

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to reclaimed water; amending s.
3 373.019, F.S.; revising the definition of the term
4 "water" or "waters in the state" to exclude reclaimed
5 water; amending s. 373.250, F.S.; providing
6 legislative findings relating to the use of reclaimed
7 water; providing that reclaimed water is an
8 alternative water supply and eligible for such
9 funding; authorizing specified contract provisions for
10 the development of reclaimed water as an alternative
11 water supply; deleting a definition for the term
12 "uncommitted"; providing for the determination of
13 uncommitted reclaimed water capacity by certain
14 utilities; prohibiting water management districts from
15 requiring permits for the use of reclaimed water;
16 authorizing permit conditions for certain surface
17 water and groundwater sources; authorizing water
18 management districts to require the use of reclaimed
19 water under certain conditions; prohibiting water
20 management districts from requiring or restricting
21 services provided by reuse utilities; providing an
22 exception; clarifying which permit applicants are
23 required to submit certain information; requiring the
24 Department of Environmental Protection and each water
25 management district to initiate rulemaking to adopt
26 specified revisions to the water resource
27 implementation rule; revising applicability; providing
28 an effective date.
29

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

31
32 Section 1. Subsection (20) of section 373.019, Florida
33 Statutes, is amended to read:

34 373.019 Definitions.—When appearing in this chapter or in
35 any rule, regulation, or order adopted pursuant thereto, the
36 term:

37 (20) "Water" or "waters in the state" means any and all
38 water on or beneath the surface of the ground or in the
39 atmosphere, including natural or artificial watercourses, lakes,
40 ponds, or diffused surface water and water percolating,
41 standing, or flowing beneath the surface of the ground, as well
42 as all coastal waters within the jurisdiction of the state.
43 Reclaimed water, as defined by the department, is not water or
44 waters in the state until it has been discharged into waters as
45 defined in s. 403.031(13).

46 Section 2. Section 373.250, Florida Statutes, is amended to
47 read:

48 373.250 Reuse of reclaimed water.—

49 (1) (a) The encouragement and promotion of water
50 conservation and reuse of reclaimed water, as defined by the
51 department and used in this chapter, are state objectives and
52 considered to be in the public interest. The Legislature finds
53 that the use of reclaimed water provided by domestic wastewater
54 treatment plants permitted and operated under a reuse program
55 approved by the department is environmentally acceptable and not
56 a threat to public health and safety.

57 (b) The Legislature recognizes that the interest of the
58 state to sustain water resources for the future through the use

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59 of reclaimed water must be balanced with the need of reuse
60 utilities to operate and manage reclaimed water systems in
61 accordance with a variety and range of circumstances, including
62 regulatory and financial considerations, which influence the
63 development and operation of reclaimed water systems across the
64 state.

65 (2) Reclaimed water is an alternative water supply as
66 defined in s. 373.019(1) and is eligible for alternative water
67 supply funding. A contract for state or district funding
68 assistance for the development of reclaimed water as an
69 alternative water supply may include provisions listed under s.
70 373.707(9).

71 ~~(3)(2)(a) For purposes of this section, "uncommitted" means~~
72 ~~the average amount of reclaimed water produced during the three~~
73 ~~lowest-flow months minus the amount of reclaimed water that a~~
74 ~~reclaimed water provider is contractually obligated to provide~~
75 ~~to a customer or user.~~

76 ~~(b)~~ Reclaimed water may be presumed available to a
77 consumptive use permit applicant when a utility exists which
78 provides reclaimed water, which has determined that it has
79 uncommitted reclaimed water capacity, and which has distribution
80 facilities, which are initially provided by the utility at its
81 cost, to the site of the affected applicant's proposed use.

82 (b) A water management district may not require a permit
83 for the use of reclaimed water. However, when a use includes
84 surface water or groundwater, the permit for such sources may
85 include conditions that govern the use of the permitted sources
86 in relation to the feasibility or use of reclaimed water.

87 (c) A water management district may require the use of

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88 reclaimed water in lieu of all or a portion of a proposed use of
89 surface water or groundwater by an applicant when the use of
90 ~~uncommitted~~ reclaimed water is available; is environmentally,
91 economically, and technically feasible; and is of such quality
92 and reliability as is necessary to the user. However, a water
93 management district may neither specify any user to whom the
94 reuse utility must provide reclaimed water nor restrict the use
95 of reclaimed water provided by a reuse utility to a customer in
96 a permit, water shortage order, or water shortage emergency
97 order unless requested by the reuse utility ~~this paragraph does~~
98 ~~not authorize a water management district to require a provider~~
99 ~~of reclaimed water to redirect reclaimed water from one user to~~
100 ~~another or to provide uncommitted water to a specific user if~~
101 ~~such water is anticipated to be used by the provider, or a~~
102 ~~different user selected by the provider, within a reasonable~~
103 ~~amount of time.~~

104 (d) The South Florida Water Management District shall
105 require the use of reclaimed water made available by the
106 elimination of wastewater ocean outfall discharges as provided
107 for in s. 403.086(9) in lieu of surface water or groundwater
108 when the use of ~~uncommitted~~ reclaimed water is available; is
109 environmentally, economically, and technically feasible; and is
110 of such quality and reliability as is necessary to the user.
111 Such reclaimed water may also be required in lieu of other
112 alternative sources. In determining whether ~~or not~~ to require
113 such reclaimed water in lieu of other alternative sources, the
114 water management district shall consider existing infrastructure
115 investments in place or obligated to be constructed by an
116 executed contract or similar binding agreement as of July 1,

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117 2011, for the development of other alternative sources.

118 (4)~~(3)~~ The water management district shall, in consultation
119 with the department, adopt rules to implement this section. Such
120 rules shall include, but not be limited to:

121 (a) Provisions to permit use of water from other sources in
122 emergency situations or if reclaimed water becomes unavailable,
123 for the duration of the emergency or the unavailability of
124 reclaimed water. These provisions shall also specify the method
125 for establishing the quantity of water to be set aside for use
126 in emergencies or when reclaimed water becomes unavailable. The
127 amount set aside is subject to periodic review and revision. The
128 methodology shall take into account the risk that reclaimed
129 water may not be available in the future, the risk that other
130 sources may be fully allocated to other uses in the future, the
131 nature of the uses served with reclaimed water, the extent to
132 which the applicant intends to rely upon reclaimed water, and
133 the extent of economic harm which may result if other sources
134 are not available to replace the reclaimed water. It is the
135 intent of this paragraph to ensure that users of reclaimed water
136 have the same access to ground or surface water and will
137 otherwise be treated in the same manner as other users of the
138 same class not relying on reclaimed water.

139 ~~(b) A water management district shall not adopt any rule
140 which gives preference to users within any class of use
141 established under s. 373.246 who do not use reclaimed water over
142 users within the same class who use reclaimed water.~~

143 (b)~~(c)~~ Provisions to require permit applicants that are not
144 reuse utilities to provide, as part of their reclaimed water
145 feasibility evaluation for a nonpotable use, written

40-00718A-12

20121086

146 documentation from a reuse utility addressing the availability
147 of reclaimed water. This requirement shall apply when the
148 applicant's proposed use is within an area that is or may be
149 served with reclaimed water by a reuse utility within a 5-year
150 horizon, as established by the reuse utility and provided to the
151 district. If the applicable reuse utility fails to respond or
152 does not provide the information required under paragraph (c)
153 ~~(d)~~ within 30 days after receipt of the request, the applicant
154 shall provide to the district a copy of the written request and
155 a statement that the utility failed to provide the requested
156 information. The district is not required to adopt, by rule, the
157 area where written documentation from a reuse utility is
158 required, but the district shall publish the area, and any
159 updates thereto, on the district's website. This paragraph may
160 not be construed to limit the ability of a district to require
161 the use of reclaimed water or to limit a utility's ability to
162 plan reclaimed water infrastructure.

163 (c)~~(d)~~ Provisions specifying the content of the
164 documentation required in paragraph (b) ~~(e)~~, including
165 sufficient information regarding the availability and costs
166 associated with the connection to and the use of reclaimed
167 water, to facilitate the permit applicant's reclaimed water
168 feasibility evaluation.

169
170 A water management district may not adopt any rule that gives
171 preference to users within any class of use established under s.
172 373.246 who do not use reclaimed water over users within the
173 same class who use reclaimed water.

174 (5) (a) No later than October 1, 2012, the department shall

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175 initiate rulemaking to adopt revisions to the water resource
176 implementation rule, as defined in s. 373.019(23), which shall
177 include:

178 1. Criteria for the use of a proposed impact offset derived
179 from the use of reclaimed water when a water management district
180 evaluates an application for a consumptive use permit. As used
181 in this subparagraph, the term "impact offset" means the use of
182 reclaimed water to reduce or eliminate a harmful impact that has
183 occurred or would otherwise occur as a result of other surface
184 water or groundwater withdrawals.

185 2. Criteria for the use of substitution credits where a
186 water management district has adopted rules establishing
187 withdrawal limits from a specified water resource within a
188 defined geographic area. As used in this subparagraph, the term
189 "substitution credit" means the use of reclaimed water to
190 replace all or a portion of an existing permitted use of
191 resource-limited surface water or groundwater, allowing a
192 different user or use to initiate a withdrawal or increase its
193 withdrawal from the same resource-limited surface water or
194 groundwater source provided that the withdrawal creates no net
195 adverse impact on the limited water resource or creates a net
196 positive impact if required by water management district rule as
197 part of a strategy to protect or recover a water resource.

198 (b) Within 60 days after the final adoption by the
199 department of the revisions to the water resource implementation
200 rule required under paragraph (a), each water management
201 district shall initiate rulemaking to incorporate those
202 revisions by reference into the rules of the district.

203 (6) ~~(4)~~ Reuse utilities and the applicable water management

40-00718A-12

20121086

204 district or districts are encouraged to periodically coordinate
205 and share information concerning the status of reclaimed water
206 distribution system construction, the availability of reclaimed
207 water supplies, and existing consumptive use permits in areas
208 served by the reuse utility.

209 (7)~~(5)~~ ~~Nothing in~~ This section does not impair or limit the
210 authority of ~~shall impair~~ a water management district ~~district's~~
211 ~~authority~~ to plan for and regulate consumptive uses of water
212 under this chapter or regulate the use of surface water or
213 groundwater to supplement a reclaimed water system.

214 (8)~~(6)~~ This section applies to applications for new
215 consumptive use permits and renewals and modifications of
216 existing consumptive use permits.

217 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.



January 23, 2012

The Honorable Charlie Dean, Chairman
Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation
and Conservation
325 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RE: S.B. 624/S.B. 626 Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund

Dear Senator Dean:

The Collier County Sheriff's Office has been collecting unwanted pharmaceuticals from residents since 1993. In 2006, we partnered with Drug Free Collier to expand Operation Medicine Cabinet to educate the public on the need to lock up medications and dispose of them properly. Disposing of these medications prevents children from ingesting these dangerous drugs and from entering wastewater treatment centers and landfills where they are extremely harmful to the environment and wildlife.

While law enforcement has thus far assumed the financial responsibility for supervising collection, storage, transportation and destruction of these pharmaceuticals, the increasing costs of this environmental prevention program should be funded from a grant program through the Department of Environmental Protection to agencies like ours who are preventing these chemicals from polluting the environment. Environmental damage prevention is much more cost efficient than clean up, one important reason why Illinois Bill P2D2 was passed into law in August, 2011. And more importantly, expanding the destruction of these unwanted pharmaceuticals will help prevent some of the 2,500 children of the average age of 12 in Collier County from using prescription drugs for the first time, seventy percent of which are taken from family medicine cabinets.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 624 and SB 626 to require the Department of Environmental Protection to establish grant program funding comprised of surcharges from specified drug offenses to reimburse collection and destruction efforts such as ours. Thank you for consideration of this important public service legislation.

Sincerely,



Kevin J. Rambosk, Sheriff
Collier County, Florida

KJR:/dv
Cc: Sen. Garrett Richter

Service to Others Before Self

routes and in different quantities than human use antibiotics. Also, how the human body metabolizes pharmaceuticals varies significantly according to the drug. In some cases, 90 percent of a pharmaceutical passes out of the body unchanged. In other cases, half or more of the pharmaceutical is absorbed and metabolized by the body.¹

There is no standard ongoing household pharmaceuticals collection program in Florida. Law enforcement agencies periodically collaborate with a retail store to host a community event to collect and safely dispose of these items. According to DEP, at an October 2011 collection event in Tallahassee sponsored by the DEP and the Southern Waste Information Exchange (SWIX), citizens reported that they threw pharmaceuticals in the trash (26 percent), flushed them down the toilet (18 percent), or just stored them when a collection event was not available (54 percent).

Chapter 893, F.S. – “Drug Abuse Prevention and Control”

Controlled substances are drugs with the potential for abuse. Chapter 893, F.S., sets forth the Florida Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act, and classifies controlled substances into five categories, known as schedules. The distinguishing factor between the schedules is the potential for abuse² of the substance and whether there is a currently accepted medical use. These schedules are used to regulate the manufacture, distribution, preparation and dispensing of the substances.³

A **Schedule I** substance has a high potential for abuse and no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States and its use under medical supervision does not meet accepted safety standards. Examples: heroin and methaqualone.

A **Schedule II** substance has a high potential for abuse, a currently accepted but severely restricted medical use in treatment in the United States, and abuse may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence. Examples: cocaine and morphine.

A **Schedule III** substance has a potential for abuse less than the substances contained in Schedules I and II, a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and abuse may lead to moderate or low physical dependence or high psychological dependence or, in the case of anabolic steroids, may lead to physical damage. Examples: lysergic acid; ketamine; and some anabolic steroids.

A **Schedule IV** substance has a low potential for abuse relative to the substances in Schedule III, a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and abuse may lead to limited physical or psychological dependence relative to the substances in Schedule III. Examples: alprazolam; diazepam; and phenobarbital.

A **Schedule V** substance has a low potential for abuse relative to the substances in Schedule IV, a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and abuse may lead to limited

¹ Florida Department of Environmental Protection, *Senate Bill 626* (Jan. 20, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

² S. 893.02(20), F.S.

³ *See*, s. 893.03, F.S.

physical or psychological dependence relative to the substances in Schedule IV. Examples: low dosage levels of codeine; certain stimulants; and certain narcotic compounds.

Except as authorized by Chapter 893 and Chapter 499, s. 893.13, F.S., makes it unlawful for any person to sell, manufacture, deliver, or possess with intent to sell, manufacture, or deliver a controlled substance. Section 893.135, F.S., relates to trafficking in controlled substances and s. 893.1351, F.S., provides that a person may not own or lease a place with the knowledge that the place or structure will be used for the purpose of trafficking in a controlled substance. A person who violates Chapter 893 can face sanctions ranging from a First Degree Misdemeanor up to and including a Felony of the First Degree (punishable by up to 30 years in Florida State Prison).

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 403.745, F.S., to establish a grant program to reimburse local law enforcement agencies for the expenses associated with the collection and disposal of household pharmaceuticals. To be eligible for a grant, a law enforcement agency must conduct the collection and disposal of household pharmaceuticals in a manner consistent with DEP rules and state and federal requirements.

Section 2 creates s. 938.16, F.S., to fund the household pharmaceuticals collection and disposal grant program. In addition to any sanction imposed for a violation of s. 893.13, s. 893.135, or s. 893.1351, the court shall impose a surcharge of \$21. Payment of the surcharge shall be a condition of probation, community control, or any other court-ordered supervision. Twenty dollars of the surcharge shall be deposited into the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund established in s. 403.7451, F.S. The clerk of the court shall retain \$1 of each surcharge that the clerk of the court collects as a service charge.

Section 3 establishes an effective date.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill may provide new business opportunities for businesses that provide collection and disposal services of these prescription drugs.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill will create a grant program within DEP. DEP has indicated that they can administer this program with existing resources but would need budget authority to administer the revenues generated by the surcharge. If local law enforcement agencies chose to hold a collection event, the cost would be reimbursed through the grant program. It is anticipated that there would be no additional costs to local governments other than the costs associated with managing the grant receipts and processing requests for reimbursement under the grants.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:**Barcode 631912 by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:**

The amendment clarifies that twenty dollars of the surcharge shall be remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund.
(WITH TITLE AMENDMENT)



631912

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Detert) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete line 37
and insert:
supervision. Twenty dollars of the surcharge shall be remitted
to the Department of Revenue for deposit

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 12
and insert:
remitted to the Department of Revenue for deposit into



631912

13

the Household Pharmaceuticals

By Senator Richter

37-00684-12

2012626__

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the collection and disposal of
3 household pharmaceuticals; creating s. 403.745, F.S.;
4 requiring the Department of Environmental Protection
5 to establish a grant program to reimburse local law
6 enforcement agencies for the expenses associated with
7 the collection and disposal of household
8 pharmaceuticals; providing eligibility requirements;
9 creating s. 938.16, F.S.; requiring that the court
10 impose an additional surcharge for specified offenses;
11 providing for the proceeds of the surcharge to be
12 deposited into the Household Pharmaceuticals
13 Collection and Disposal Trust Fund; providing for the
14 clerk of the court to retain a service charge;
15 providing an effective date.

16
17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

18
19 Section 1. Section 403.745, Florida Statutes, is created to
20 read:

21 403.745 Household pharmaceuticals collection and disposal
22 grant program.—The department shall establish a grant program to
23 reimburse local law enforcement agencies for the expenses
24 associated with the collection and disposal of household
25 pharmaceuticals. To be eligible for a grant, a law enforcement
26 agency must conduct the collection and disposal of household
27 pharmaceuticals in a manner consistent with applicable rules of
28 the department and applicable state and federal requirements.

29 Section 2. Section 938.16, Florida Statutes, is created to

37-00684-12

2012626__

30 read:

31 938.16 Additional cost to fund the household
32 pharmaceuticals collection and disposal grant program.—In
33 addition to any sanction imposed for a violation of s. 893.13,
34 s. 893.135, or s. 893.1351, the court shall impose a surcharge
35 of \$21. Payment of the surcharge shall be a condition of
36 probation, community control, or any other court-ordered
37 supervision. Twenty dollars of the surcharge shall be deposited
38 into the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust
39 Fund established in s. 403.7451. The clerk of the court shall
40 retain \$1 of each surcharge that the clerk of the court collects
41 as a service charge of the clerk's office.

42 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.



January 23, 2012

The Honorable Charlie Dean, Chairman
Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation
and Conservation
325 Knott Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RE: S.B. 624/S.B. 626 Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund

Dear Senator Dean:

The Collier County Sheriff's Office has been collecting unwanted pharmaceuticals from residents since 1993. In 2006, we partnered with Drug Free Collier to expand Operation Medicine Cabinet to educate the public on the need to lock up medications and dispose of them properly. Disposing of these medications prevents children from ingesting these dangerous drugs and from entering wastewater treatment centers and landfills where they are extremely harmful to the environment and wildlife.

While law enforcement has thus far assumed the financial responsibility for supervising collection, storage, transportation and destruction of these pharmaceuticals, the increasing costs of this environmental prevention program should be funded from a grant program through the Department of Environmental Protection to agencies like ours who are preventing these chemicals from polluting the environment. Environmental damage prevention is much more cost efficient than clean up, one important reason why Illinois Bill P2D2 was passed into law in August, 2011. And more importantly, expanding the destruction of these unwanted pharmaceuticals will help prevent some of the 2,500 children of the average age of 12 in Collier County from using prescription drugs for the first time, seventy percent of which are taken from family medicine cabinets.

I am writing to express my strong support for SB 624 and SB 626 to require the Department of Environmental Protection to establish grant program funding comprised of surcharges from specified drug offenses to reimburse collection and destruction efforts such as ours. Thank you for consideration of this important public service legislation.

Sincerely,


Kevin J. Rambosk, Sheriff
Collier County, Florida

KJR:/dv
Cc: Sen. Garrett Richter

Service to Others Before Self

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: SB 624

INTRODUCER: Senator Richter

SUBJECT: Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund/DEP

DATE: February 2, 2012 REVISED: 02/07/12

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiggins	Yeatman	EP	Fav/1 amendment
2.			HR	
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

- | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... | <input type="checkbox"/> | Statement of Substantial Changes |
| B. AMENDMENTS..... | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Technical amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Amendments were recommended |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> | Significant amendments were recommended |

I. Summary:

The bill creates the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund within the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and provides for sources, purposes and management of funds. This bill is related to SB 626, which creates a grant program for pharmaceutical collection and disposal.

As required by the constitution, the trust fund is terminated on July 1, 2016, and takes effect July 1, 2012, but only if enacted by a three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature.

The bill creates an un-numbered section of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Section 19(f), Art. III of the State Constitution, requires that every trust fund be created by a three-fifths vote of the membership in each house of the Legislature in a separate bill for the sole purpose of creating that trust fund. The Constitution also provides that all newly created trust funds terminate not more than four years after the initial creation unless recreated.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund within DEP. The funds will be used for the grant program established in s. 403.745, F.S., by SB 626 to reimburse local law enforcement agencies for the expenses associated with the collection and disposal of household pharmaceuticals. The trust fund sunsets on July 1, 2016, unless terminated sooner. The trust fund must be reviewed prior to its scheduled termination as provided in ss. 215.3206 (1) and (2), F.S.

Section 2 provides the effective date of July 1, 2012, if SB 626 or similar legislation is adopted and becomes law.

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

Article III, section 19(f)(1), of the Florida Constitution, provides no trust fund of the state or other public body may be created without three-fifths vote of the membership of each house of the Legislature in a separate bill for that purpose only.

IV. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

V. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VI. Related Issues:

None.

VII. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

Barcode 304776 by Environmental Preservation and Conservation on February 6, 2012:

The amendment clarifies that the Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal Trust Fund is tied to SB 626.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



304776

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Detert) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete line 37
and insert:
Senate Bill 626 or similar legislation is adopted in the same

By Senator Richter

37-00685-12

2012624

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to trust funds; creating s. 403.7451,
3 F.S.; creating the Household Pharmaceuticals
4 Collection and Disposal Trust Fund within the
5 Department of Environmental Protection; providing for
6 sources of funds and purposes; providing for annual
7 carryforward of funds; providing for the future review
8 and termination or re-creation of the trust fund;
9 providing a contingent effective date.

10
11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

12
13 Section 1. Section 403.7451, Florida Statutes, is created
14 to read:

15 403.7451 Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal
16 Trust Fund.—

17 (1) The Household Pharmaceuticals Collection and Disposal
18 Trust Fund is created within the Department of Environmental
19 Protection and shall be administered by the Secretary of
20 Environmental Protection or his or her designee. Funds credited
21 to the trust fund shall consist of funds received from fees
22 imposed pursuant to s. 938.16.

23 (2) The trust fund is established for use as a depository
24 for funds to be used for the purposes of the household
25 pharmaceuticals collection and disposal grant program
26 established in s. 403.745.

27 (3) Notwithstanding s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351,
28 any balance in the trust fund at the end of any fiscal year
29 shall remain in the trust fund at the end of the year and shall

37-00685-12

2012624__

30 be available for carrying out the purpose of the trust fund.

31 (4) In accordance with s. 19(f)(2), Art. III of the State
32 Constitution, the trust fund shall, unless terminated sooner, be
33 terminated on July 1, 2016. Before its scheduled termination,
34 the trust fund shall be reviewed as provided in s. 215.3206(1)
35 and (2).

36 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012, if
37 Senate Bill ____ or similar legislation is adopted in the same
38 legislative session or an extension thereof and becomes law.

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic AIRBOAT SOUND

Bill Number SB 958
(if applicable)

Name TERENCE CAKE

Amendment Barcode 514606
(if applicable)

Job Title ENGINEER

Address 8415 SW 28TH PL

Phone 352-538-1556

Street

GAINESVILLE, FL 32608

E-mail TCAKE@ATT.NET

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing PRIVATE CITIZEN

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Airboat noise

Bill Number 958
(if applicable)

Name TERRY HALBACK

Amendment Barcode ?
(if applicable)

Job Title RN

Address P.O. Box 1097

Phone 352-466-0066

Street
MICAWOPY FL 32667
City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing myself

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Feb 6, 2012
Meeting Date

Topic Airboat Noise

Bill Number S 958
(if applicable)

Name Bill Halback

Amendment Barcode ?
(if applicable)

Job Title Retired

Address PO Box 1097
Street

Phone 352 466 0066

Micanopy FL 32667
City State Zip

E-mail quietlakes@yahoo.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Quiet Lakes of Alachua County

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic 958

Bill Number 958
(if applicable)

Name Casey Cook

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Legislative Advocate

Address PO Box 1757
Street

Phone 701 3701

Tallahassee FL 32302
City State Zip

E-mail ccook@flcities.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida League of Cities

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2.5.17
Meeting Date

Topic AIRPORTS Bill Number 259
(if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY PKWY Phone 941-723-2404
Street

TALLAHASSEE FL 34203 E-mail cullen@seaeo
City State Zip 201.COM

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing SIERRA CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic APPROATS

Bill Number 958
(if applicable)

Name STEPHEN JAMES

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 100 S. MONROE ST
Street
TALLAHASSEE, FL
City State Zip

Phone 922-4360

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FLA. ASSOC. OF COUNTIES

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic Arbores

Bill Number SB 958
(if applicable)

Name Bonnie RASHAM

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 133 Oak St, #15

Phone 850 933-7277

TLH, FL
City State Zip

E-mail CapitalIdeas@att.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Fla Arbores Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12 ¹⁰
Meeting Date

Topic Airboats

Bill Number SB958
(if applicable)

Name Jerry Wetherington

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 18031 S. Cr 325
Street
Hawthorne FL 32640
City State Zip

Phone 352 4660489

E-mail jerryw1@bellsouth.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing United Sportsmen Airboaters Alliance

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.



THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic AIRBOAT

Bill Number SB 958 H233
(if applicable)

Name FRANK FINLIN

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title RETIRED

Address 3495 N.E. 132nd PL
Street

Phone 352-867-5599

ANTHONY FL 32617
City State Zip

E-mail F M FINLIN

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

10

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic Airboat Sound

Bill Number SB 958
(if applicable)

Name Capt. Bob Hoover

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title FWC Fish Creel studies

Address 1645 N. Oakhaven Terr.
Street

Phone 352-601-0087

Inverness Fl. 34453
City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Airboat Assn.

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic Airports Noise

Bill Number _____
(if applicable)

Name Calvin Perry

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Guide

Address 855 W Hwy 318

Phone 1-352-339-3012

Street
CITRA
City FL 32113
State *Zip*

E-mail CALVIN@WINDSTREAM

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing ~~Senator Ortiz~~ FLA Airports Noise Calvin Guide Service

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: SB 958

INTRODUCER: Senator Oelrich

SUBJECT: Airboats

DATE: February 2, 2012 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Wiggins	Yeatman	EP	Unfavorable
2.			CA	
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

This bill requires the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) to establish a voluntary sound testing program for airboats. It provides that persons submitting to the voluntary testing program, whose airboat registers below a certain sound level, will be permitted to operate their airboat on all navigable waterways of the state, even if local ordinances or other laws otherwise prohibit the airboat's operation. The bill provides that those passing the voluntary test will be provided a certificate and decal by the FWC. The bill also sets testing requirements and provides that airboat operators opting to have the test must pay a fee (the amount to be determined by the FWC) to the testing facility. All testing facilities would have to be certified by the FWC.

The bill amends ss. 327.60 and 327.65, F.S.

II. Present Situation:

According to the FWC, during the calendar year 2010, there were 6,851 registered airboats in the State. The 5 counties with the highest number of airboat registrations in 2010 were:

County	Number of Airboat Registrations
Polk	720
Brevard	548
Citrus	359
Marion	319
Palm Beach	305 ¹

Florida law requires that the exhaust of every airboat engine must be adequately muffled by use of automotive-style mufflers, underwater exhaust, or another device capable of adequately muffling exhaust sound.²

Section 327.60(2)(e), F.S., prohibits local governments from discriminating against airboats with any ordinances adopted after July 1, 2006, unless the ordinance is adopted by a two-thirds vote of the governing body.

Section 327.65(1), F.S., requires that the exhaust of every internal combustion engine used on any vessel must be effectively muffled, and further prohibits the use of exhaust cut-out devices (which would allow the operator to mechanically divert the exhaust gases in order to bypass a muffling device). Section 327.65(2)(a), F.S., provides that counties wishing to impose additional noise pollution and exhaust regulations on vessels may adopt (by ordinance) the following language:

No person shall operate or give permission for the operation of any vessel on the waters of any county or on a specified portion of the waters of any county, including the Florida Intracoastal Waterway, which has adopted the provisions of this section in such a manner as to exceed the following sound levels at a distance of 50 feet from the vessel: for all vessels, a maximum sound level of 90 dB A.

“Sound level” is defined as:

A-weighted³ sound pressure level measured with fast response using an instrument complying with the specification for sound level meters of the American National Standards Institute, Inc., or its successor bodies, except that only a weighting and fast dynamic response need be provided.

“dB A” is defined as “the composite abbreviation for the A-weighted sound level and the unit of sound level, the decibel.”

¹ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Senate Bill 958 Analysis (Dec. 21, 2011) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

² Section 327.391(1), F.S.

³ A-Weighted Sound Level - A measure of sound pressure level designed to reflect the acuity of the human ear, which does not respond equally to all frequencies. The ear is less efficient at low and high frequencies than at medium or speech-range frequencies. Therefore, to describe a sound containing a wide range of frequencies in a manner representative of the ear's response, it is necessary to reduce the effects of the low and high frequencies with respect to the medium frequencies. The resultant sound level is said to be A-weighted, and the units are dB A. The A-weighted sound level is also called the noise level. Sound level meters have an A-weighting network for measuring A-weighted sound level.

According to the FWC, in 2005, a research team from Florida Atlantic University (FAU) was contracted by the Commission to perform research concerning airboat noise. The research revealed that, during airboat drive-by tests, the peak sound level measured at 50-feet from the path of the vessel always exceeded 90 dB A at maximum operating conditions and speed, and, in many cases, exceeded 100 dB A. It was also found that most airboats can operate with a peak sound level of 90 dB A or less, measured at 50-feet during drive-by tests, at the minimum speed required to maintain planing conditions.⁴ The research also revealed that airboat sound levels vary greatly from one boat to the next and depend upon a host of variables. Vessel load, type, design of propeller, and the use of either a gear or belt-drive to reduce propeller speed are just a few.⁵

The FWC served as a co-host (together with the Florida Airboat Association) of a quiet airboat demonstration held in central Florida in May of 2006 which was intended to offer an opportunity for airboat owners to learn about the sound levels generated by their personal boats. The FAU research team was on-hand to take sound level readings as volunteers drove their airboats through a prescribed course at either maximum throttle or minimum planing speed. Of the ten airboats participating, the maximum throttle sound level readings taken at 50-feet from the vessel during drive-by testing ranged from 88.9 dB A to 106.8 dB A for boats equipped with mufflers. Minimum planing speed sound levels ranged from 77.4 dB A to 91.15 dB A for muffled boats.⁶

According to s. 327.60, F.S., local ordinances relating to the operation of a vessel on the water by airboats may not be “discriminated” against by local ordinances unless they are adopted after July 1, 2006, by a two thirds vote by the governing body. To address excessive noise on the water many counties have passed local ordinances imposing noise curfews.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 327.391, F.S., and requires FWC to establish a voluntary sound testing program for airboats. Tests would be required to meet minimum requirements, including that a test would have to be conducted while an airboat is travelling on plane in water that is 1 foot deep or less and at a distance of 100 feet perpendicular to the fixed-in-place testing equipment (measured from the closest edge of the airboat). Additionally, all testing equipment would have to be calibrated to allow for ambient noise, weather, and other factors that could interfere with an accurate reading. The test would cost the airboat owner an unspecified fee, not to exceed administrative costs of the FWC, which would be paid to the testing facility. All testing facilities would have to be certified by the FWC.

⁴ Airboat hulls, like many boat hulls, are designed to be capable of skimming across the water once they reach an appropriate speed. This “skimming” on the water, as contrasted with plowing through the water, is called being on a “plane.” The research looked at the sound levels that were generated by boats when they got up on a plane (which takes more engine effort and generates more noise) then reduced their speed so they were going just fast enough to maintain a planing attitude. This is often the most efficient speed at which to run a boat and, for airboats, was the quietest the boat would be able to run at any appreciable speed.

⁵ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Senate Bill 958 Analysis (Dec. 21, 2011) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁶ *Id.*

The bill provides that persons submitting to the voluntary testing program and whose airboat tests at or below 107 dB A under the above specified conditions will be provided a certificate and numbered decal by the FWC. The certificate and decal will permit that specific airboat to be operated on all navigable waterways of the state, even on waterways otherwise prohibited for airboat operation by local ordinance or other law.

Section 2 amends s. 327.60, F.S., to allow airboats bearing a decal to operate above sound levels that have been prohibited by local ordinances. Section 327.65(2)(a), F.S., currently allows local governments to adopt an ordinance preventing sound levels over a certain dB A. While this bill does not propose to strike that provision, the proposed changes to section 327.65(2)(a), F.S., create an exception to the provision that effectively eliminates it as it pertains to airboats which would have a decal.

The bill would also modify the prohibition of local government “discrimination” against airboats for ordinances adopted on or before July 1, 2006. According to FWC, it appears that the proposed change to section 327.60, F.S., would still allow local governments to discriminate against airboats that have received a decal pursuant to the new section 327.391(5) F.S., but would no longer allow ordinances discriminating against airboats not bearing such a decal.⁷

Section 3 amends s. 327.65, F.S., to clarify that any person who refuses to submit to a sound level test when requested by a law enforcement officer commits a misdemeanor in the second degree.

Section 4 establishes an effective date.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

⁷ Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, Senate Bill 958 Analysis (Dec. 21, 2011) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

B. Private Sector Impact:

If private testing companies are permitted to perform the sound tests on airboats, then those companies may see an increase in the demand for the tests on airboats.

C. Government Sector Impact:

FWC is unclear if the Commission or private entities are anticipated to be tasked with performing the actual sound testing as well as who will ultimately receive the testing fees paid by the airboat owner.

According to the FWC, the proposed language could be interpreted to eliminate the obligation of an airboat operator who has a certificate and decal, acquired as a result of voluntary sound level testing, to submit to a sound level test when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

According to the FWC, the proposed language could be interpreted to eliminate the obligation of an airboat operator who has a certificate and decal, acquired as a result of voluntary sound level testing, to submit to a sound level test when requested to do so by a law enforcement officer.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.



514606

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/14/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Oelrich) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 327.391, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

327.391 Airboats regulated.—

(1) The exhaust of every internal combustion engine used on any airboat operated on the waters of this state shall be provided with an automotive-style factory muffler, underwater exhaust, or other manufactured device capable of adequately muffling the sound of the exhaust of the engine as described in



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13 s. 327.02(24). The use of cutouts or flex pipe as the sole
14 source of muffling is prohibited, except as provided in
15 subsection (4). Any person who violates this subsection commits
16 a noncriminal infraction punishable as provided in s. 327.73(1).

17 (2) An airboat operator cited for an infraction of
18 subsection (1) may not operate the airboat until a muffler as
19 defined in s. 327.02 is installed.

20 (3) An airboat may not operate on the waters of the state
21 unless it is equipped with a mast or flagpole bearing a flag at
22 a height of at least 10 feet above the lowest portion of the
23 vessel. The flag must be square or rectangular, at least 10
24 inches by 12 inches in size, international orange in color, and
25 displayed so that the visibility of the flag is not obscured in
26 any direction. Any person who violates this subsection commits a
27 noncriminal infraction punishable as provided in s. 327.73(1).

28 (4) This section does not apply to a person participating
29 in an event for which a permit is required, or of which notice
30 must be given, under s. 327.48.

31 (5) (a) Airboat testing facilities may implement a voluntary
32 testing program to conduct sound level tests on airboats. The
33 testing program shall meet all requirements of this subsection,
34 including having at least 50 percent of their revenues generated
35 by the airboat manufacturing or airboat servicing industries.
36 Any testing facility shall maintain a record of each airboat
37 tested, including the date, registration number, and decal
38 number issued, if applicable. Failure to perform the testing in
39 accordance with this subsection or maintain records of each test
40 and decals issued may result in a suspension of the right of the
41 facility to perform testing.



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42 (b) An airboat that is tested through a testing program
43 established pursuant to this subsection and that tests at a
44 sound level of 92 dB A or less while traveling on plane from a
45 distance of 100 feet shall be issued a certificate and numbered
46 decal by the testing facility conducting the test. The decal
47 shall have on it the name of the testing facility that conducted
48 the test, the date of the test, and a sequential number unique
49 to the decal. The decal shall be posted on the left side of the
50 vessel within 6 inches of the Florida registration decal or on
51 the left-hand side of the operator's seat. Such decal shall
52 authorize the airboat to be operated on all navigable waterways
53 of this state, including waterways on which airboats are
54 prohibited by a local ordinance or other provision of law, but
55 not in places designated by the Division of Recreation and Parks
56 of the Department of Environmental Protection as closed to
57 combustible engine watercraft, for a period of 12 months
58 following the date of issuance.

59 (c) The testing facility may charge a fee for conducting
60 the airboat sound level test to the party requesting such test.
61 Tests must meet the following requirements:

62 1. Each test shall be conducted while the airboat is
63 traveling on plane in water 1 foot deep or less, from a distance
64 of 100 feet perpendicular to the fixed-in-place testing
65 equipment, as measured from the closest edge of the airboat; and

66 2. The sound level meter used in the test shall be
67 calibrated to allow for ambient noise, weather, and other
68 factors that may interfere with an accurate and reliable reading
69 and must comply with the standards set forth in S1.4-1983
70 (R2006) of the American National Standards Institute,



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71 Specifications for Sound Level Meters, as those standards
72 existed on February 1, 2012.

73 (d) A law enforcement agency may require retesting of any
74 decaled boat if there is probable cause to believe that the boat
75 violates the standards established for obtaining a decal and if
76 the boat is operating at a time or location authorized only by a
77 decal obtained pursuant to this subsection. Such retest shall
78 comply with the conditions outlined in this subsection in all
79 respects. A vessel operator who fails to submit to a retest upon
80 probable cause to believe that the vessel is being operated in
81 violation of this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second
82 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. A
83 vessel that fails a retest forfeits the right to operate during
84 any "decal only" time or location. An operator who operates a
85 vessel in violation of this subsection is subject to a fine that
86 may not exceed \$150.

87 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 327.60, Florida
88 Statutes, is amended to read:

89 327.60 Local regulations; limitations.-

90 (2) Nothing in this chapter or chapter 328 shall be
91 construed to prevent the adoption of any ordinance or local
92 regulation relating to operation of vessels, except that a
93 county or municipality may ~~shall~~ not enact, continue in effect,
94 or enforce any ordinance or local regulation:

95 (a) Establishing a vessel or associated equipment
96 performance or other safety standard, imposing a requirement for
97 associated equipment, or regulating the carrying or use of
98 marine safety articles;

99 (b) Relating to the design, manufacture, installation, or



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100 use of any marine sanitation device on any vessel;
101 (c) Regulating any vessel upon the Florida Intracoastal
102 Waterway;
103 (d) Discriminating against personal watercraft;
104 (e) Discriminating against airboats that possess a valid
105 decal obtained in compliance with s. 327.391(5), for ordinances
106 adopted after July 1, 2006, unless adopted by a two-thirds vote
107 of the governing body enacting such ordinance;
108 (f) Regulating the anchoring of vessels other than live-
109 aboard vessels outside the marked boundaries of mooring fields
110 permitted as provided in s. 327.40;
111 (g) Regulating engine or exhaust sound ~~noise~~, except as
112 provided in s. 327.65; or
113 (h) That conflicts with any provisions of this chapter or
114 any amendments thereto or rules adopted thereunder.
115 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 327.65, Florida
116 Statutes, is amended to read:
117 327.65 Muffling devices.—
118 (2) (a) Any county wishing to impose additional noise
119 pollution and exhaust regulations on vessels may, pursuant to s.
120 327.60(2), adopt by county ordinance the following regulations:
121 1. Except as provided in s. 327.391(5), a ~~no~~ person may not
122 ~~shall~~ operate or give permission for the operation of any vessel
123 on the waters of any county or on a specified portion of the
124 waters of any county, including the Florida Intracoastal
125 Waterway, which has adopted the provisions of this section in
126 such a manner as to exceed the following sound levels at a
127 distance of 50 feet from the vessel: for all vessels, a maximum
128 sound level of 90 dB A.



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129 2. Except as provided in s. 327.391(5), any person who
130 refuses to submit to a sound level test when requested to do so
131 by a law enforcement officer commits ~~is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor
132 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
133 775.083.

134 (b) The following words and phrases, when used in this
135 section, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them
136 in this subsection.

137 1. "dB A" means the composite abbreviation for the A-
138 weighted sound level and the unit of sound level, the decibel.

139 2. "Sound level" means the A-weighted sound pressure level
140 measured with fast response using an instrument complying with
141 the specification for sound level meters of the American
142 National Standards Institute, Inc., or its successor bodies,
143 except that only a weighting and fast dynamic response need be
144 provided.

145 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

146
147 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

148 And the title is amended as follows:

149 Delete everything before the enacting clause
150 and insert:

151 A bill to be entitled
152 An act relating to airboats; amending s. 327.391,
153 F.S.; providing for airboat testing facilities to
154 establish a voluntary sound level testing program for
155 airboats; providing qualification requirements and
156 recordkeeping requirements for such facilities;
157 allowing airboats that test below a specified sound



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158 level to be operated on all navigable waters of the
159 state, including waterways on which airboats are
160 prohibited by local ordinance or other provision of
161 law for a specified time; providing an exception;
162 requiring a fee; providing testing requirements;
163 authorizing law enforcement agencies to require
164 retesting in certain situations; providing penalties;
165 amending s. 327.60, F.S.; requiring a super majority
166 vote to enact certain ordinances regulating airboats;
167 amending s. 327.65, F.S., relating to muffling devices
168 on vessels; conforming provisions to changes made by
169 the act; providing an effective date.

By Senator Oelrich

14-00655B-12

2012958

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to airboats; amending s. 327.391,
3 F.S.; requiring the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
4 Commission to establish a voluntary sound-testing
5 program for airboats; allowing airboats that test
6 below a specified sound level to be operated on all
7 navigable waters of the state, including waterways on
8 which airboats are prohibited by local ordinance;
9 requiring a fee; providing testing requirements;
10 amending s. 327.60, F.S.; requiring a super majority
11 vote to enact certain ordinances regulating airboats;
12 amending s. 327.65, F.S., relating to muffling devices
13 on vessels; conforming provisions to changes made by
14 the act; providing an effective date.

15
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17
18 Section 1. Section 327.391, Florida Statutes, is amended to
19 read:

20 327.391 Airboats regulated.—

21 (1) The exhaust of every internal combustion engine used on
22 any airboat operated on the waters of this state shall be
23 provided with an automotive-style factory muffler, underwater
24 exhaust, or other manufactured device capable of adequately
25 muffling the sound of the exhaust of the engine as described in
26 s. 327.02(24). The use of cutouts or flex pipe as the sole
27 source of muffling is prohibited, except as provided in
28 subsection (4). Any person who violates this subsection commits
29 a noncriminal infraction punishable as provided in s. 327.73(1).

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30 (2) An airboat operator cited for an infraction of
31 subsection (1) may not operate the airboat until a muffler as
32 defined in s. 327.02 is installed.

33 (3) An airboat may not operate on the waters of the state
34 unless it is equipped with a mast or flagpole bearing a flag at
35 a height of at least 10 feet above the lowest portion of the
36 vessel. The flag must be square or rectangular, at least 10
37 inches by 12 inches in size, international orange in color, and
38 displayed so that the visibility of the flag is not obscured in
39 any direction. Any person who violates this subsection commits a
40 noncriminal infraction punishable as provided in s. 327.73(1).

41 (4) This section does not apply to a person participating
42 in an event for which a permit is required, or of which notice
43 must be given, under s. 327.48.

44 (5) (a) The commission shall establish a voluntary testing
45 program to conduct sound level tests on airboats.

46 (b) An airboat that tests at a sound level of 107 dB A or
47 less while traveling on plane from a distance of 100 feet shall
48 be issued a certificate and numbered decal by the commission
49 which authorizes the airboat to be operated on all navigable
50 waterways of this state, including waterways on which airboats
51 are prohibited by a local ordinance or other provision of law.

52 (c) A person must pay a fee, not to exceed the
53 administration costs of the commission, established by the
54 commission after consultation with experts in the industry, to a
55 testing facility that has been certified by the commission to
56 use sound test equipment and testing methods pursuant to this
57 paragraph. Tests must meet the following requirements:

58 1. Each test shall be conducted while the airboat is

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59 traveling on plane in water 1 foot deep or less from a distance
60 of 100 feet perpendicular to the fixed-in-place testing
61 equipment, as measured from the closest edge of the airboat; and

62 2. Test equipment shall be calibrated to allow for ambient
63 noise, weather, and other factors that may interfere with an
64 accurate and reliable reading.

65 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 327.60, Florida
66 Statutes, is amended to read:

67 327.60 Local regulations; limitations.—

68 (2) Nothing in this chapter or chapter 328 shall be
69 construed to prevent the adoption of any ordinance or local
70 regulation relating to operation of vessels, except that a
71 county or municipality may ~~shall~~ not enact, continue in effect,
72 or enforce any ordinance or local regulation:

73 (a) Establishing a vessel or associated equipment
74 performance or other safety standard, imposing a requirement for
75 associated equipment, or regulating the carrying or use of
76 marine safety articles;

77 (b) Relating to the design, manufacture, installation, or
78 use of any marine sanitation device on any vessel;

79 (c) Regulating any vessel upon the Florida Intracoastal
80 Waterway;

81 (d) Discriminating against personal watercraft;

82 (e) Discriminating against airboats that do not bear a
83 decal issued pursuant to s. 327.391(5), ~~for ordinances adopted~~
84 ~~after July 1, 2006,~~ unless adopted by a two-thirds vote of the
85 governing body enacting such ordinance;

86 (f) Regulating the anchoring of vessels other than live-
87 aboard vessels outside the marked boundaries of mooring fields

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88 permitted as provided in s. 327.40;

89 (g) Regulating engine or exhaust sound ~~noise~~, except as
90 provided in s. 327.65; or

91 (h) That conflicts with any provisions of this chapter or
92 any amendments thereto or rules adopted thereunder.

93 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 327.65, Florida
94 Statutes, is amended to read:

95 327.65 Muffling devices.—

96 (2) (a) Any county wishing to impose additional noise
97 pollution and exhaust regulations on vessels may, pursuant to s.
98 327.60(2), adopt by county ordinance the following regulations:

99 1. Except as provided in s. 327.391(5), a ~~no~~ person may not
100 ~~shall~~ operate or give permission for the operation of any vessel
101 on the waters of any county or on a specified portion of the
102 waters of any county, including the Florida Intracoastal
103 Waterway, which has adopted the provisions of this section in
104 such a manner as to exceed the following sound levels at a
105 distance of 50 feet from the vessel: for all vessels, a maximum
106 sound level of 90 dB A.

107 2. Except as provided in s. 327.391(5), any person who
108 refuses to submit to a sound level test when requested to do so
109 by a law enforcement officer commits ~~is guilty of~~ a misdemeanor
110 of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
111 775.083.

112 (b) The following words and phrases, when used in this
113 section, shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them
114 in this subsection.

115 1. "dB A" means the composite abbreviation for the A-
116 weighted sound level and the unit of sound level, the decibel.

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117 2. "Sound level" means the A-weighted sound pressure level
118 measured with fast response using an instrument complying with
119 the specification for sound level meters of the American
120 National Standards Institute, Inc., or its successor bodies,
121 except that only a weighting and fast dynamic response need be
122 provided.

123 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

11

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic LIMITED CERTIFICATION

Bill Number 604
(if applicable)

Name DAVID CULLEN

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1674 UNIVERSITY AVE #296

Phone 941-323-2404

Street

SARASOTA

FL

3423

City

State

Zip

E-mail cullen@seaguard.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FERRY CLUB FLORIDA

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number SB 604
(if applicable)

Name Brewster Bevis

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title VP - External Relations

Address 516 N. Adams St

Phone 850-224-7173

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

E-mail bbevis@aif.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Associated Industries of Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic _____

Bill Number 604
(if applicable)

Name JAMES SPRATT

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Director of Government Affairs

Address 310 W. College Ave
Street
TALCAHASSEE FL 32301
City State Zip

Phone 407-383-7204

E-mail JSpratt@fnsla.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Nursery, Growers & LANDSCAPE

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/16/12

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number SB604
(if applicable)

Name MAC CARRAWAY

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title PRESIDENT - SMR FARMS

Address 4715 LORRAINE ROAD

Phone 941-708-3322

Street

BRADENTON

FL

34211

E-mail

mac.carraway@smrfarms.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing ~~SELF / FLA TURFCROSS ASSOCIATION~~ SMR FARMS

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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LAST

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Urban Fertilizer

Bill Number 604
(if applicable)

Name DR. TERRIL NELL

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Professor Emeritus

Address _____

Phone 352-318-1607

Street

BREVARD

City

NC

State

Zip

E-mail terrilnel@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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2-6-12

Meeting Date

Topic Senate Bill 604

Bill Number 604
(if applicable)

Name Missy Timmins

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 2910 Kerry Forest Pkwy D4368 Phone 264-3225

Street

TLH

City

FL

State

32309

Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Pest Management Assoc.

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic FERTILIZER

Bill Number 604

Name STEPHEN JAMES

Amendment Barcode 665304
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 100 S. MONROE

Phone 922-4300

TALAMANCA FL
City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FLA. ASSOC. OF COUNTIES

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer, Urban Use

Bill Number SB 604
(if applicable)

Name Peter L. Snyder

Amendment Barcode
(if applicable)

Job Title Executive Director Florida Turfgrass Assn.

Address 120 E. Pine St., Suite 1
Street

Phone 800-882-6721

Lakeland, FL 33801
City State Zip

E-mail pete@ftga.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Florida Turfgrass Assn.

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number SB 604
(if applicable)

Name TODD JOSKO

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 2900 W. AZEEL ST, UNIT A
Street
Tampa, FL 33607
City State Zip

Phone (813) 374-4618

E-mail todd@joskoassociates.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FL Turfgrass Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

11

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-2012

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer - Nitrogen/Phosphorus

Bill Number SB 604 (if applicable)

Name MARTHA C SIMONS

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Job Title Councilwoman

Address 9101 Bonita Beach Rd

Phone 239-949-6262

Street Bonita Springs, FL 34135

E-mail MARTHA.SIMONS@cityofbonitasprings.org

Speaking: [] For [X] Against [] Information

Representing taxpayers / Citizens of the City of Bonita Springs, FL.

Appearing at request of Chair: [] Yes [X] No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: [] Yes [X] No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11
2/6/2012

Meeting Date

Topic FERTILIZER

Bill Number SB 604
(if applicable)

Name JACK MERRIAM

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 319 Braden AVE
Street
SARASOTA FL 34243
City State Zip

Phone (941) 780-3120

E-mail jack.merriam@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/2012

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizers

Bill Number SB604
(if applicable)

Name JEFF JUCHNOWICZ

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 4296 Las Palmas Way

Phone 941-724-0050

Street
Sarasota FL 34238

E-mail JmJuchno@egyle.

City *State* *Zip*

Speaking: For Against Information

FGCU.
Edn

Representing _____

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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02-06-12

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer Bill

Bill Number SB 604
(if applicable)

Name Ray Judah

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Lee County Commissioner

Address 12664 Coconut Creek Court
Street

Phone (239) 533-2223

Ft. Myers FL 33908
City State Zip

E-mail Dist 3 @ leegov.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Lee County

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

11

THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2-6-12
Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number CS/SB 604
(if applicable)

Name Stephanie Kunkel

Amendment Barcode 665304
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 1830 Meriadowc Rd.

Phone 850-320-4208

Street
Tallahassee FL 32303
City State Zip

E-mail stef.kunkel@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Clean Water Action

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

11

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number CS/SB 604
(if applicable)

Name Mary Jean Yan

Amendment Barcode 665304
(if applicable)

Job Title _____

Address 3324 Charleston Rd.
Street

Phone (850) 519-7859

TLH FL 32309
City State Zip

E-mail maryjeanyan@comcast.net

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Audubon Florida

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number 004

Name Ryan Matthews

Amendment Barcode 645304
(if applicable)

Job Title Leg Advocate

Address PO Box 1757

Phone 850-222-9684

Tallahassee FL 32302
Street City State Zip

E-mail rmatthews@flcities.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FL League of Cities

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

11

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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2-6-12

Meeting Date

LATVALA AMENDMENT

Topic FERTILIZER

Bill Number 604
(if applicable)

Name KURT SPITZER

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title EXEC. DIRECTOR

Address 719 E PARK

Phone 561-0904

Street
T 32301
City State Zip

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing FLA STORMWATER ASSOCIATION

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilize

Bill Number SB604

Name John Mascaro

Amendment Barcode 448222
(if applicable)

Job Title Ex. Director Sports Turf Managers Assoc.

Address 1471 Capital Circle NW #13

Phone 850-580-4026

Street

Tallahassee FL 32303

E-mail JOHN@TURF-TEC.COM

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Sports Turf Managers Association / Fla Chapters

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

2/6/12
Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number SB604
(if applicable)

Name Teresa He Heitmann

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title Councilwoman of the City of Naples

Address 2350 Forrest Lane
Street
Naples FL 34102
City State Zip

Phone 239-370-1499

E-mail _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing League of Cities

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

Meeting Date _____

Topic FERTILIZER BILL

Bill Number 604
(if applicable)

Name MICK DENHAM

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title VICE MAYOR CITY OF SANIBEL

Address DUNLOP RD
Street

Phone 239 395 1848

SANIBEL _____
City State Zip

E-mail mickdenham@aol.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing CITY OF SANIBEL, SWF REGIONAL PLANNING COUNCIL

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE APPEARANCE RECORD

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2/6/12

Meeting Date

Topic Fertilizer

Bill Number CS/SB 604
(if applicable)

Name NOAH ~~VALENSTEIN~~ VALENSTEIN

Amendment Barcode _____
(if applicable)

Job Title LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS DIRECTOR

Address 625 N. Adams

Phone 850 222 5805

Tallahassee FL 32303
City State Zip

E-mail nvalenstein@evergladesfoundation.org

Speaking: For Against Information

Representing Everglades Foundation (EVERGLADES FOUNDATION)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No
Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/20/11)

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 604

INTRODUCER: Agriculture Committee and Senator Dean and others

SUBJECT: Limited Certification for Urban Landscape Commercial Fertilizer Application

DATE: January 27, 2012 **REVISED:** _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Akhavein	Buford	AG	Fav/CS
2.	Uchino	Yeatman	EP	Unfavorable
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... Statement of Substantial Changes

B. AMENDMENTS..... Technical amendments were recommended

Amendments were recommended

Significant amendments were recommended

I. Summary:

This committee substitute (CS) provides legislative findings that the use of best management practices (BMPs) when applying commercial fertilizer is critical to the state’s efforts in minimizing potential harmful impacts to the water quality of the state. It provides that persons who have obtained the limited certification for urban landscape commercial fertilizer application by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) are required to follow BMPs, and that they are exempt from local government ordinances that address the fertilization of urban turfs, lawns, and landscapes. It requires the department to provide local and state governmental agencies with information concerning the certification status of persons that have obtained the limited certification. It also clarifies that the department is granted enforcement authority over certified professionals, including administration, enforcement, and collection of penalties, fines, and administrative actions.

This CS amends section 482.1562 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Model Ordinance for Florida-Friendly Fertilizer Use

The Florida Consumer Fertilizer Task Force was created by the Florida Legislature in 2007 to review and provide recommendations on the state's policies and programs addressing consumer fertilizers. A Model Ordinance for Florida-Friendly Fertilizer Use on Urban Landscapes (model ordinance), was developed by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in conjunction with the Florida Consumer Fertilizer Task Force, the DACS, and the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS). In 2009 the Legislature made findings that implementation of the model ordinance will assist in protecting the quality of Florida's surface water and groundwater resources.¹

Local Government Adoption of Fertilizer Ordinances

Section 403.9337, F.S., encourages local governments to adopt the model ordinance as a mechanism for protecting local surface and groundwater quality; however, it recognizes that certain local conditions may necessitate the implementation of additional or more stringent fertilizer management practices at the local government level. Many local governments have enacted a variety of ordinances through their home rule powers to regulate the commercial fertilization of urban turfs, lawns and landscapes.² These ordinances relate to composition of applied fertilizer, fertilizer application rate, fertilizer free zones, setback requirements and blackout times where no fertilizer can be applied (usually the rainy season).

Local governments are also required to limit impacts from stormwater discharges. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) administers the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program under the federal Clean Water Act. The Corps has delegated the authority to Florida to implement this program for stormwater systems, including municipal systems. The DEP permits MS4 municipal separate storm sewer systems.³ An MS4 is a publicly-owned conveyance or system of conveyances (i.e., ditches, curbs, catch basins, underground pipes, etc.) that is designed or used for collecting or conveying stormwater and that discharges to surface waters of the state.⁴ Under the MS4 permit, local governments are required to undertake a number of activities to protect water bodies. Some of these activities include capital construction projects to retain stormwater, retrofitting where possible and land use decisions.

¹ Chapter 2009-199, s. 3, Laws of Fla.

² The following counties have adopted more stringent standards than the model ordinance or substantially similar ordinances to the model ordinance: Alachua, Charlotte, Duval, Hillsborough, Lee, Manatee, Marion, Martin, Orange, Pinellas, Sarasota, St. Johns and Wakulla. The following municipalities have also adopted more stringent standards than the model ordinance: City of Alachua, Bonita Springs, Cape Coral, Fort Meyers, Fort Meyers Beach, Jacksonville, Longboat Key, Monteverde, Naples, Northport, all municipalities within Pinellas County, Port St. Lucie, Sanibel, City of Sarasota, Sewall's Point and Venice.

³ DEP, *Florida's NPDES Stormwater Program*, http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/stormwater/npdes/MS4_1.htm (last visited Jan. 26, 2012).

⁴ *Id.*

DACS-certification of Commercial Fertilizer Applicators

In order to have a means of documenting and ensuring compliance with BMPs for commercial fertilizer application to urban landscapes, the Legislature directed the DACS to establish a limited certification for urban landscape commercial fertilizer application. The DACS, in cooperation with the IFAS, was also directed to develop an educational program for people working in lawn-care and landscape maintenance to teach safe landscaping practices. After receiving a certificate demonstrating successful completion of the DACS or a DACS-approved program, and paying a certification fee, a person may apply to the DACS to receive a limited certification of urban landscape commercial fertilizer application under s. 482.1562, F.S. Starting January 1, 2014, all commercial fertilizer applicators must be certified to make any type of fertilizer application to commercial turf or ornamental trees, the turf or ornamental areas of parks or fields other than agricultural areas, or the turf or ornamental area of any residential property.⁵ Currently, certified persons are not exempt from local government ordinances that address fertilization of urban turfs, lawns, and landscapes.

Contributions of Fertilizers to Waters of the State

There have been numerous studies of the effects on urban fertilizer use in Florida. A 2008 study completed by the Tampa Bay Estuary Program concluded that a conservative estimate of fertilizer runoff in urbanized areas approaches 25 percent.⁶

In the Lower St. Johns River basin management action plan, the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) was required to remove 18,472 pounds of nitrogen per year from stormwater runoff. The FDOT commissioned a study that concluded of the 112,020 pounds of nitrogen applied annually to roadside areas, 18,477 pounds (16.5 percent) washed into surface waters. The study also concluded that the roadside areas did not require application of nitrogen fertilizer, saving \$150,000 annually. In addition, by not applying the fertilizer, the FDOT was able to meet its reduction goal of removing 18,472 pounds of nitrogen with no other reduction strategies.⁷

In a third study, the DEP hired MACTEC, an environmental engineering firm, to conduct a study of Wekiva River nitrate sourcing. The study was completed in two phases and a final report was issued in March 2010. Part of phase II of the study re-visited the effects of residential fertilizer in the Wekiva River Basin. The study concluded that 15 percent of the annual nitrogen loading in the Wekiva River Basin comes from residential fertilizer use. This amounts to 1,485 metric tons per year in the Wekiva Basin.⁸

⁵ University of Florida, IFAS Extension, *Licensing of Lawn and Ornamental Pesticide Applicators in Florida*, available at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/PI/PI00600.pdf> (last visited Jan. 27, 2012).

⁶ Tampa Bay Estuary Program, *Technical Memorandum: Model-Based Estimates of Nitrogen Load Reductions Associated with Fertilizer Restriction Implementation* (Nov. 2008) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

⁷ FDOT Research, *Evaluation of Pollution Levels Due to the Use of Consumer Fertilizers under Florida Conditions*, available at http://www.dot.state.fl.us/research-center/Completed_Proj/Summary_RD/FDOT_BDK78%20_977-04_sum.pdf (last visited Jan. 26, 2012).

⁸ MACTEC, prepared for the St. Johns WMD and the DEP, *Final Report Wekiva River Basin Nitrate Sourcing Study* (Mar. 2010), available at <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/wekiva/docs/wekiva-basin-nitrate-sourcing-fr0310.pdf> (last visited Jan. 26, 2012).

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 482.1562, F.S., to provide legislative findings that using BMPs in the application of commercial fertilizer to urban landscapes is a critical component of the state's efforts to minimize potential impacts to water quality. It requires persons, certified for urban landscape commercial fertilizer application, to follow BMPs established by the DEP. It exempts certified persons from local government ordinances that address the fertilization of urban turfs, lawns, and landscapes. It requires the department to provide specified information to other local and state governmental agencies. Finally, it clarifies that the department has enforcement authority over certified professionals and provides requirements for associated penalties, fines, and administrative actions taken by the department.

Section 2 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

Other Potential Implications:

The CS will preempt local governments that have adopted urban fertilizer ordinances from regulating department-certified fertilizer applicators. Certified applicators must adhere to BMPs established by the DEP. However, the DEP has not adopted any BMPs for urban fertilizer application. It has only coordinated the development of recommended guidelines in the "Florida-Friendly Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Quality by the Green Industries," including BMPs for urban fertilizer application.⁹ Therefore, this requirement appears to be unenforceable and may exempt urban fertilizer applicators from local ordinances even if they do not follow the recommended BMPs. The DEP has existing authority to adopt BMPs by rule pursuant s. 403.067(7)(c)1., F.S., for the establishment of total maximum daily loads. If the Legislature intends to ensure the applicability of this provision, it should authorize the DEP to adopt BMPs for urban fertilizer application as well.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

⁹ DEP, *Florida-Friendly Best Management Practices for Protection of Water Quality by the Green Industries*, available at http://fyn.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/GIBMP_Manual_WEB_2_17_11.pdf (last visited Jan. 26, 2012).

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The CS exempts department-certified fertilizer applicators from all local government ordinances that address urban fertilization. It also allows the department to assess penalties and fines against applicators who do not comply with certain provisions. The impact can only be determined on a case-by-case basis.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The CS requires the DACS to provide information concerning the certification status of persons who have obtained the limited certification for urban landscape commercial fertilizer application to other local and state governmental agencies. This may result in a potential workload increase for the DACS, which is expected to meet the costs with existing staff and resources.

Additionally, the CS may have a significant impact on local governments to provide for nutrient reductions for their NPDES permits (MS4 stormwater systems) or to comply with total maximum daily loads and basin management action plans. Several counties' representatives have expressed concerns that the CS may require them to provide for much more costly options to remove nutrients from surface waters, including capital projects and constructed wetlands. The Tampa Bay Estuary Program estimates 30.2 tons on nitrogen will be prevented from entering the Tampa Bay watershed as the result of enacting local ordinances.¹⁰ Another county has constructed a filter marsh to remove nitrogen at a cost of \$600 per pound.¹¹ While the individual costs to local governments cannot be determined, they may be significant.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

¹⁰ E-mail from Nanette Holland, Public Outreach Coordinator, Tampa Bay Estuary Program (Jan. 26, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

¹¹ E-mail from Kurt Harclerode, Operations Manager, Natural Resources Division, Lee County (Jan. 26, 2012) (on file with the Senate Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation).

VIII. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by the Agriculture Committee on December 5, 2011:

The CS requires that persons certified for urban landscape and commercial fertilizer application follow BMPs as established by the DEP. It also requires the department to provide specified information to other local and state governmental agencies.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.



152126

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RS	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Present subsection (1) through (8) of section
482.1562, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2)
through (9), respectively, a new subsection (1) is added to that
section and present subsections (2), and (8) of that section are
amended, to read:

482.1562 Limited certification for urban landscape
commercial fertilizer application.—

(1) The Legislature finds that the implementation of best



152126

13 management practices for commercial fertilizer application to
14 urban landscapes is a critical component of the state's efforts
15 to minimize potential impacts to water quality.

16 (3)(2) Beginning January 1, 2014, any person applying
17 commercial fertilizer to an urban landscape must be certified
18 under this section. A person certified under this section must
19 follow best management practices for commercial fertilizer
20 application to urban landscapes as established by the Department
21 of Environmental Protection. A person certified under this
22 section is exempt from local government ordinances that address
23 the fertilization of urban turfs, lawns, and landscapes.

24 (9)(8) The department shall ~~may~~ provide information
25 concerning the certification status of persons certified under
26 this section to other local and state governmental agencies. The
27 department is encouraged to create an online database that lists
28 all persons certified under this section.

29 Section 2. Subsections (5) and (6) are added to section
30 403.9337, Florida Statutes, to read:

31 (5) The provisions of s. 482.1562(3) do not limit the
32 authority of the department or water management districts
33 pursuant to chapter 373 or chapter 403 to adopt rules or issue
34 orders relating to fertilizer practices that are necessary to
35 achieve compliance with applicable water quality standards or to
36 implement federally authorized or delegated programs.

37 (6) The department shall submit a report on the
38 effectiveness of seasonal or calendar-based prohibited
39 application periods for the fertilization of urban turfs, lawns
40 and landscapes on the water quality of the state to the
41 Governor, President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House



152126

42 of Representatives, by December 31, 2016.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

44

45 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

46 And the title is amended as follows:

47 Delete everything before the enacting clause
48 and insert:

49 A bill to be entitled

50 An act relating to limited certification for urban
51 landscape commercial fertilizer application; amending s.
52 482.1562, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring
53 persons who hold a limited certification to follow the model
54 ordinance; providing exemptions; requiring local governments to
55 establish a variance process; allowing application of fertilizer
56 during certain periods; providing for sunset of certain
57 provisions; requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
58 Services to provide specified information to other local and
59 state governmental agencies; amending s. 403.9337, F.S.;
60 allowing the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt
61 certain rules; requiring a report; providing an effective date.

62



665304

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/06/2012	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Latvala) recommended the following:

Senate Substitute for Amendment (152126) (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Present subsections (1) through (8) of section 482.1562, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (9), respectively, a new subsection (1) is added to that section and present subsections (2), and (8) of that section are amended, to read:

482.1562 Limited certification for urban landscape commercial fertilizer application.—



665304

13 (1) The Legislature finds that the implementation of best
14 management practices for commercial fertilizer application to
15 urban landscapes is a critical component of the state's efforts
16 to minimize potential impacts to water quality.

17 (3) ~~(2)~~ Beginning January 1, 2014, any person applying
18 commercial fertilizer to an urban landscape must be certified
19 under this section. A person certified under this section must
20 follow the most recent version of the Model Ordinance for
21 Florida-Friendly Fertilizer Use on Urban Landscapes.

22 (a) A person certified under this section is exempt from
23 seasonal or calendar-based prohibited application period bans
24 within local government ordinances that address the
25 fertilization of urban turfs, lawns and landscapes; however, a
26 county or municipal government which has adopted an ordinance
27 prior to January 1, 2012, which contain a seasonal or calendar-
28 based prohibited application period, may continue to enforce the
29 ordinance within its jurisdiction.

30 (b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), within 90 days of the
31 effective date of this act, a county or municipal government
32 with an existing seasonal or calendar-based prohibited
33 application period ban shall establish a reasonable process
34 whereby a person certified under this section may apply for a
35 variance from the prohibited application period ban to apply
36 nutrients to damaged turf and landscape plants based on industry
37 recognized tests and standards that demonstrate a need for
38 nutrients on a site-specific basis. Between July 1, 2012, and
39 the date at which a county or municipal government establishes a
40 process under the provisions of this paragraph, a certified
41 commercial fertilizer applicator may apply nutrients to damaged



665304

42 turf and landscape plants based on industry recognized tests and
43 standards that demonstrate a need for nutrients on a site-
44 specific basis.

45
46 For the limited purposes of an ordinance amended to include the
47 provisions of paragraph (b), ss. 403.9337(3), 570.07(41)(b), and
48 576.181(5)(b), do not apply.

49 (c) Paragraphs (a) and (b) shall sunset on July 1, 2017,
50 unless reauthorized by the Legislature.

51 (9)(8) The department shall may provide information
52 concerning the certification status of persons certified under
53 this section to other local and state governmental agencies. The
54 department is encouraged to create an online database that lists
55 all persons certified under this section.

56 Section 2. Subsections (5) and (6) are added to section
57 403.9337, Florida Statutes, to read:

58 (5) The provisions of s. 482.1562(3) do not limit the
59 authority of the department or water management districts
60 pursuant to chapter 373 or chapter 403 to adopt rules or issue
61 orders relating to fertilizer practices that are necessary to
62 achieve compliance with applicable water quality standards or to
63 implement federally authorized or delegated programs.

64 (6) The department shall submit a report on the
65 effectiveness of seasonal or calendar-based prohibited
66 application periods for the fertilization of urban turfs, lawns
67 and landscapes on the water quality of the state to the
68 Governor, President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House
69 of Representatives, by December 31, 2016.

70 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.



665304

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===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause
and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to limited certification for urban
landscape commercial fertilizer application; amending s.
482.1562, F.S.; providing legislative findings; requiring
persons who hold a limited certification to follow the Model
Ordinance for Florida-Friendly Fertilizer Use on Urban
Landscapes; providing exemptions; requiring local governments to
establish a variance process; allowing application of fertilizer
during certain periods; providing for sunset of certain
provisions; requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
Services to provide specified information to other local and
state governmental agencies; amending s. 403.9337, F.S.;
allowing the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt
certain rules; requiring a report; providing an effective date.



448222

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: FAV	.	
02/06/2012	.	
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The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Detert) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment to Amendment (665304) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Delete lines 56 - 58
5 and insert:

6 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 403.9337, Florida
7 Statutes, is amended, and subsections (5) and (6) are added to
8 that section, to read:

9 403.9337 Model Ordinance for Florida-Friendly Fertilizer
10 Use on Urban Landscapes.—

11 (4) This section does not apply to the use of fertilizer on



448222

12 farm operations as defined in s. 823.14, ~~or~~ on lands classified
13 as agricultural lands pursuant to s. 193.461, or on golf
14 courses, including all landscaped areas, that comply with the
15 Best Management Practices provisions of the Department of
16 Environmental Protection when applying fertilizer to those
17 areas.

18 (5) The provisions of s. 482.1562(3) do not limit the
19
20

21 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

22 And the title is amended as follows:

23 Between lines 87 and 88

24 insert:

25 exempting certain golf courses from the provisions of
26 the Model Ordinance for Florida-Friendly Fertilizer
27 Use on Urban landscapes;



189584

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Detert) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment to Amendment (665304) (with title**
2 **amendment)**

3
4 Between lines 69 and 70
5 insert:

6 Section 3. If fertilizer is applied to a golf course, the
7 most current update of the Department of Environmental
8 Protection's Best Management Practices for the Enhancement of
9 Environmental Quality on Florida Golf Courses must be followed.
10 For all other applications, specialized turf managers must use
11 the department's Florida Green Industries Best Management
12 Practices for Protection of Water Resources in Florida (June



189584

13 2002).

14

15 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

16 And the title is amended as follows:

17 Delete line 89

18 and insert:

19 certain rules; requiring a report; providing
20 guidelines for the application of fertilizer on golf
21 courses and all other applications; providing an
22 effective date.



240700

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Dean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete line 35
and insert:
section is exempt from seasonal or calendar-based prohibited
application period bans within local government ordinances that
address



897476

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation
(Dean) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with directory and title amendments)

Between lines 45 and 46
insert:

(12) This section does not limit the authority of the
Department of Environmental Protection or a water management
district to adopt rules or issue orders requiring fertilizer
practices that are necessary to achieve compliance with
applicable water quality standards or to implement federally
authorized or delegated programs.

=====
D I R E C T O R Y C L A U S E A M E N D M E N T
=====



897476

13 And the directory clause is amended as follows:

14 Delete line 20

15 and insert:

16 through (11), respectively, a new subsection (1) and subsection
17 (12) are added to

18

19 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

20 And the title is amended as follows:

21 Delete line 13

22 and insert:

23 and administrative actions; providing that the act
24 does not limit the authority of the Department of
25 Environmental Protection or the water management
26 districts to adopt rules or issue orders requiring
27 fertilizer practices necessary to comply with
28 applicable water quality standards; providing an
29 effective

By the Committee on Agriculture; and Senator Dean

575-01522-12

2012604c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to limited certification for urban
3 landscape commercial fertilizer application; amending
4 s. 482.1562, F.S.; providing legislative findings;
5 requiring persons who hold a limited certification to
6 follow certain best management practices; providing an
7 exemption from certain local government ordinances;
8 requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
9 Services to provide specified information to other
10 local and state governmental agencies; providing the
11 department with certain enforcement authority;
12 providing a requirement for related penalties, fines,
13 and administrative actions; providing an effective
14 date.

15
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17
18 Section 1. Present subsections (1) through (10) of section
19 482.1562, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2)
20 through (11), respectively, a new subsection (1) is added to
21 that section, and present subsections (2), (8), and (10) of that
22 section are amended, to read:

23 482.1562 Limited certification for urban landscape
24 commercial fertilizer application.—

25 (1) The Legislature finds that the implementation of best
26 management practices for commercial fertilizer application to
27 urban landscapes is a critical component of the state's efforts
28 to minimize potential impacts to water quality.

29 (3)~~(2)~~ Beginning January 1, 2014, any person applying

575-01522-12

2012604c1

30 commercial fertilizer to an urban landscape must be certified
31 under this section. A person certified under this section must
32 follow best management practices for commercial fertilizer
33 application to urban landscapes as established by the Department
34 of Environmental Protection. A person certified under this
35 section is exempt from local government ordinances that address
36 the fertilization of urban turfs, lawns, and landscapes.

37 (9)-(8) The department shall ~~may~~ provide information
38 concerning the certification status of persons certified under
39 this section to other local and state governmental agencies. The
40 department is encouraged to create an online database that lists
41 all persons certified under this section.

42 (11)-(10) The department has enforcement authority over
43 persons certified under this section and may adopt rules to
44 administer this section. All penalties, fines, and
45 administrative actions must be consistent with this chapter.

46 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

760

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Kurt S. Browning, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

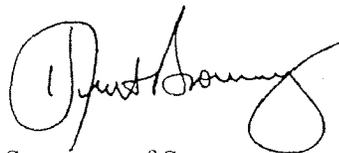
Adam Gelber

is duly appointed a member of the

Environmental Regulation Commission

for a term beginning on the
Tenth day of October, A.D., 2011,
until the First day of July, A.D., 2015
and is subject to be confirmed by the Senate
during the next regular session of the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Tenth day of November, A.D., 2011*



Secretary of State



State of Florida" appears in small letters across the face of this 8 1/2 x 11" document

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

2011 NOV 10 AM 10:50

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Miami-Dade

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Environmental Regulation Commission

(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Adam R. Gelber

Signature

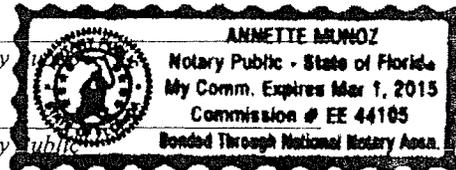
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of November, 2011.

John M...

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Annette Munoz

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public



Personally Known OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced _____

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home Office

5916 Pine Tree Drive

Street or Post Office Box

Miami Beach, FL 33140

City, State, Zip Code

Adam Gelber

Print name as you desire commission issued

Adam R. Gelber

Signature



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2011 OCT 17 PM 3:2

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

October 10, 2011

Mr. Kurt S. Browning, Secretary
Department of State
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Browning:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 20.255(7), Florida Statutes:

Mr. Adam R. Gelber
5916 Pinetree Drive
Miami Beach, Florida 33140

as a member of the Environmental Regulation Commission, succeeding Donald H. Ross, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective October 10, 2011, for a term ending July 1, 2015.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

RS/nj

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SENATE CONFIRMATION

The information from this questionnaire will be used by the the Florida Senate in considering action on your confirmation. The questionnaire MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL. Answer "none" or "not applicable" where appropriate.

Please type or print in blue or black ink.

10/24/2011

Date Completed

1. Name: Mr Gelber Adam R
MR./MRS./MS. LAST FIRST MIDDLE/MAIDEN

2. Business Address: 2001 NW 107th Avenue Doral
STREET OFFICE # CITY
Florida 33172 (305) 592-7275
POST OFFICE BOX STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER

3. Residence Address: 5916 Pine Tree Drive Miami Beach Miami-Dade
STREET CITY COUNTY
Florida 33140 (305) 867-0287
POST OFFICE BOX STATE ZIP CODE AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER

Specify the preferred mailing address: Business Residence Fax # _____
(optional)

4. A. List all your places of residence for the last five (5) years.

ADDRESS	CITY & STATE	FROM	TO
<u>5916 Pine Tree Drive</u>	<u>Miami Beach, FL</u>	<u>1998</u>	<u>Present</u>

B. List all your former and current residences outside of Florida that you have maintained at any time during adulthood.

ADDRESS	CITY & STATE	FROM	TO
<u>1501 Highland Avenue, #301</u>	<u>Knoxville, TN</u>	<u>~1988</u>	<u>1991</u>

5. Date of Birth: 06/12/70 Place of Birth: Portsmouth, VA

6. Social Security Number: _____

7. Driver License Number: _____ Issuing State: Florida

8. Have you ever used or been known by any other legal name? Yes No If "Yes" Explain

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
SECRETARY OF STATE

11 OCT 27 AM 10: 22

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9. Are you a United States citizen? Yes No If "No" explain:

If you are a naturalized citizen, date of naturalization: _____

10. Since what year have you been a continuous resident of Florida? 1974

11. Are you a registered Florida voter? Yes No If "Yes" list:

A. County of Registration: Miami-Dade B. Current Party Affiliation: Republican

12. Education

A. High School: Ransom Everglades, Coconut Grove, FL Year Graduated: 1988

(NAME AND LOCATION)

B. List all postsecondary educational institutions attended:

NAME & LOCATION	DATES ATTENDED	CERTIFICATES/DEGREES RECEIVED
<u>University of Tennessee, Knoxville</u>	<u>1988-1991</u>	<u>---</u>
<u>St. Thomas University, Miami</u>	<u>1992-1994</u>	<u>---</u>
<u>Univ of Miami</u>	<u>1994-1998</u>	<u>BS - Wildland & Wildlife Management</u>

13. Are you or have you ever been a member of the armed forces of the United States? Yes No If "Yes" list:

A. Dates of Service: _____

B. Branch or Component: _____

C. Date & type of discharge: _____

14. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or indicted for violation of any federal, state, county, or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance? (Exclude traffic violations for which a fine or civil penalty of \$150 or less was paid.) Yes No If "Yes" give details:

DATE	PLACE	NATURE	DISPOSITION
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

15. Concerning your current employer and for all of your employment during the last five years, list your employer's name, business address, type of business, occupation or job title, and period(s) of employment.

EMPLOYER'S NAME & ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	OCCUPATION/JOB TITLE	PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT
<u>Atkins 2001 NW 107th Avenue, Miami</u>	<u>A&E Corporation</u>	<u>Group Manager/Sr Scientist</u>	<u>2000-Present</u>

16. Have you ever been employed by any state, district, or local governmental agency in Florida? Yes No If "Yes", identify the position(s), the name(s) of the employing agency, and the period(s) of employment:

POSITION	EMPLOYING AGENCY	PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

17. A. State your experiences and interests or elements of your personal history that qualify you for this appointment.

I have lived in south Florida for the past 36 years. Work history involves dealing with a wide range of environmental matters from when I was employed at Biscayne National Park in the Resource Management Division to dealing with groundwater remediation of a former Superfund Site in north Miami to my current position addressing coastal issues for clients.

B. Have you received any degree(s), professional certification(s), or designations(s) related to the subject matter of this appointment? Yes No If "Yes", list:

BS - Wildland & Wildlife Management

C. Have you received any awards or recognitions relating to the subject matter of this appointment? Yes No If "Yes", list:

D. Identify all association memberships and association offices held by you that relate to this appointment:

Coastal Conservation Association

18. Do you currently hold an office or position (appointive, civil service, or other) with the federal or any foreign government? Yes No If "Yes", list:

19. A. Have you ever been elected or appointed to any public office in this state? Yes No If "Yes", state the office title, date of election or appointment, term of office, and level of government (city, county, district, state, federal):

OFFICE TITLE DATE OF ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT TERM OF OFFICE LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT

B. If your service was on an appointed board(s), committee(s), or council(s):

(1) How frequently were meetings scheduled: _____

(2) If you missed any of the regularly scheduled meetings, state the number of meetings you attended, the number you missed, and the reasons(s) for your absence(s).

MEETINGS ATTENDED	MEETINGS MISSED	REASON FOR ABSENCE
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

20. Has probable cause ever been found that you were in violation of Part III, Chapter 112, F.S., the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees? Yes No If "Yes", give details:

DATE	NATURE OF VIOLATION	DISPOSITION
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

21. Have you ever been suspended from any office by the Governor of the State of Florida? Yes No If "Yes", list:

A. Title of office: _____ C. Reason for suspension: _____

B. Date of suspension: _____ D. Result: Reinstated Removed Resigned

22. Have you previously been appointed to any office that required confirmation by the Florida Senate? Yes No If "Yes", list:

A. Title of Office: _____

B. Term of Appointment: _____

C. Confirmation results: _____

23. Have you ever been refused a fidelity, surety, performance, or other bond? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

24. Have you held or do you hold an occupational or professional license or certificate in the State of Florida? Yes No If "Yes", provide the title and number, original issue date, and issuing authority. If any disciplinary action (fine, probation, suspension, revocation, disbarment) has ever been taken against you by the issuing authority, state the type and date of the action taken:

LICENSE/CERTIFICATE TITLE & NUMBER	ORIGINAL ISSUE DATE	ISSUING AUTHORITY	DISCIPLINARY ACTION/DATE
US Merchant Marine/1165697	2001	US Coast Guard	
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

25. A. Have you, or businesses of which you have been and owner, officer, or employee, held any contractual or other direct dealings during the last four (4) years with any state or local governmental agency in Florida, including the office or agency to which you have been appointed or are seeking appointment? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

NAME OF BUSINESS	YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO BUSINESS	BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP TO AGENCY
Atkins North America, Inc.	Employer	Vendor/Consultant
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

B. Have members of your immediate family (spouse, child, parents(s), siblings(s)), or businesses of which members of your immediate family have been owners, officers, or employees, held any contractual or other direct dealings during the last four (4) years with any state or local governmental agency in Florida, including the office or agency to which you have been appointed or are seeking appointment? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

<u>NAME OF BUSINESS</u>	<u>FAMILY MEMBER'S RELATIONSHIP TO YOU</u>	<u>FAMILY MEMBER'S RELATIONSHIP TO BUSINESS</u>	<u>BUSINESS' RELATIONSHIP TO AGENCY</u>
-------------------------	--	---	---

Not to the best of my knowledge

26. Have you ever been a registered lobbyist or have you lobbied at any level of government at any time during the past five (5) years? Yes No

A. Did you receive any compensation other than reimbursement for expenses? Yes No

B. Name of agency or entity you lobbied and the principal(s) you represented:

<u>AGENCY LOBBIED</u>	<u>PRINCIPAL REPRESENTED</u>
-----------------------	------------------------------

27. List three persons who have known you well within the past five (5) years. Include a current, complete address and telephone number. Exclude your relatives and members of the Florida Senate.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>ZIP CODE</u>	<u>AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER</u>
-------------	------------------------	-----------------	-------------------------------

Monica Cepero _____

Mike Kennedy _____

Donald Deis _____

28. Name any business, professional, occupational, civic, or fraternal organizations(s) of which you are now a member, or of which you have been a member during the past five (5) years, the organization address(es), and date(s) of your membership(s).

<u>NAME</u>	<u>MAILING ADDRESS</u>	<u>OFFICE(S) HELD & TERM</u>	<u>DATE(S) OF MEMBERSHIP</u>
-------------	------------------------	----------------------------------	------------------------------

Backcountry Unlimited, Inc. 5916 Pine Tree Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33140 President Since 2001

Coastal Conservation Assoc 4061 Forrestal Avenue, #8, Orlando, FL 32806 Board Member Since 2007

Atkins North America, Inc 2001 NW 107th Avenue, Miami, FL 33172 Employee Since 2000

29. Do you know of any reason why you will not be able to attend fully to the duties of the office or position to which you have been or will be appointed? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

30. If required by law or administrative rule, will you file financial disclosure statements? Yes No

MEMORANDUM

AS A GENERAL MATTER, APPLICATIONS FOR ALL POSITIONS WITHIN STATE GOVERNMENT ARE PUBLIC RECORDS WHICH MAY BE VIEWED BY ANYONE UPON REQUEST. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS LAW FOR IDENTIFYING INFORMATION RELATING TO PAST AND PRESENT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, VICTIMS OF CERTAIN CRIMES, ETC. IF YOU BELIEVE AN EXEMPTION FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS LAW APPLIES TO YOUR SUBMISSION, PLEASE CHECK THIS BOX.

Yes, I assert that identifying information provided in this application should be excluded from inspection under the Public Records Law.

Because: (please provide cite.) _____

IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AS TO THE APPLICABILITY OF ANY PUBLIC RECORDS LAW EXEMPTION TO YOUR SITUATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The Office of the Attorney General
PL-01, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-0150

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF

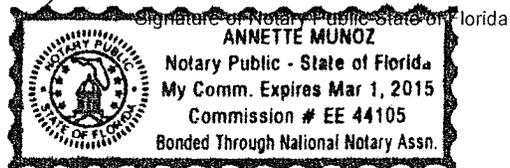
Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared Adam R. Yelther, who, after being duty sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

Adam R. Yelther

Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 24 day of October, 2011.

Annette Munoz



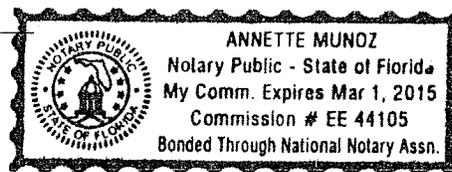
Annette Munoz

(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: March 1, 2015

Personally Known OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced _____



(seal)

850

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Elections

I, Kurt S. Browning, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Aliese Price Priddy

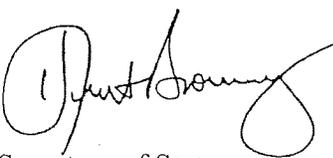
is duly appointed a member of the

Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

for a term beginning on the
Seventh day of January, A.D., 2011,
until the Sixth day of January, A.D., 2017
and is subject to be confirmed by the Senate
during the next regular session of the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Tenth day of January, A. D., 2012.*




Secretary of State

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Lee

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12 JAN -9 AM 9:31
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
SECRETARY OF STATE

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Commissioner of the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

(Title of Office)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Aliese P. Priddy
Signature

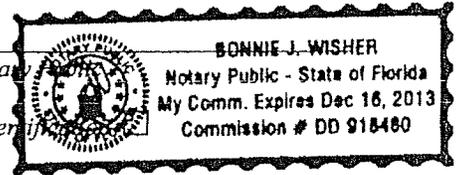
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of January, 2012.

Bonnie J. Wisner
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary

Personally Known OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced _____



ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home Office

P. O. Box 930

Street or Post Office Box

Immokalee, FL 34143

City, State, Zip Code

Aliese Price Priddy

Print name as you desire commission issued

Aliese P. Priddy
Signature



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

2012 JAN 10 AM 9:45

COMMUNICATIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

December 30, 2011

Mr. Kurt S. Browning, Secretary
Department of State
R. A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Browning:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Article IV, Section 9, FL Const. :

Ms. Aliese P. Priddy
7007 State Road 29 South
Immokalee, Florida 34143

as a member of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, succeeding Dwight Stephenson, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective January 7, 2011, for a term ending January 6, 2017.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor

RS/nj

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR SENATE CONFIRMATION

The information from this questionnaire will be used by the the Florida Senate in considering action on your confirmation. The questionnaire MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL. Answer "none" or "not applicable" where appropriate.

Please type or print in blue or black ink.

Date Completed 1-5-12

1. Name: Ms. Priddy Aliese Price
MR./MRS./MS. LAST FIRST MIDDLE/MAIDEN

2. Business Address: 7007 State Rd. 29 South. Immokalee 34142
STREET OFFICE # CITY
P.O. Box 930 FL 34143 239 657-4380
POST OFFICE BOX STATE ZIP COOE AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER

3. Residence Address: Same
STREET CITY COUNTY
Same
POST OFFICE BOX STATE ZIP COOE AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER

Specify the preferred mailing address: Business Residence Fax # _____
(optional)

4. A. List all your places of residence for the last five (5) years.

<small>ADDRESS</small>	<small>CITY & STATE</small>	<small>FROM</small>	<small>TO</small>
<u>7007 State Rd. 29 South</u>	<u>Immokalee, FL</u>	<u>1994</u>	<u>Present</u>

B. List your former and current residences outside of Florida that you have maintained at any time during adulthood.

<small>ADDRESS</small>	<small>CITY & STATE</small>	<small>FROM</small>	<small>TO</small>
<u>4334 Purdue Dr.</u>	<u>N. Charleston, SC</u>	<u>7/77</u>	<u>4/78</u>
<u>4404 Purdue Dr.</u>	<u>N. Charleston, SC</u>	<u>4/78</u>	<u>12/79</u>
<u>4325 Evanston Blvd.</u>	<u>N. Charleston, SC</u>	<u>12/79</u>	<u>7/84</u>

5. Date of Birth: 11-08-57 Place of Birth: Miami, FL

6. Social Security Number: _____

7. Driver License Number: _____ Issuing State: FL

8. Have you ever used or been known by any other legal name? Yes No If "Yes" Explain
Cathryn Aliese Price maiden name

SENATE CLERK'S OFFICE
 SIGNATURE OF STATE
 12 JAN -9 AM 9:31

9. Are you a United States citizen? Yes No If "No" explain:

N/A

If you are a naturalized citizen, date of naturalization: N/A

10. Since what year have you been a continuous resident of Florida? 1984

11. Are you a registered Florida voter? Yes No If "Yes" list:

A. County of Registration: Collier B. Current Party Affiliation: Republican

12. Education

A. High School: Goldent Hills Academy Ocala, FL Year Graduated: 1974

(NAME AND LOCATION)

B. List all postsecondary educational institutions attended:

NAME & LOCATION	DATES ATTENDED	CERTIFICATES/DEGREES RECEIVED
FCCU Ft. Myers, FL	2009-present	still enrolled for BA-Env. Studie
Graduate School of Banking at LSU Baton Rouge, LA	97-99	Diploma
GA Southern Univ. Statesboro, GA	74-77	BBA in finance

13. Are you or have you ever been a member of the armed forces of the United States? Yes No If "Yes" list:

A. Dates of Service: N/A

B. Branch or Component: N/A

C. Date & type of discharge: N/A

14. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or indicted for violation of any federal, state, county, or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance? (Exclude traffic violations for which a fine or civil penalty of \$150 or less was paid.) Yes No If "Yes" give details:

DATE	PLACE	NATURE	DISPOSITION
1/18/06	Collier County, FL	speeding	fine paid

15. Concerning your current employer and for all of your employment during the last five years, list your employer's name, business address, type of business, occupation or job title, and period(s) of employment.

EMPLOYER'S NAME & ADDRESS	TYPE OF BUSINESS	OCCUPATION/JOB TITLE	PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT
< Cohen & Grigsby, P.C. Bonita Springs, FL	law firm	Conflict of Interest Coordinator	2006-present
< Sunniland Family, LP/ JB Ranch Immokalee, FL	ranch	owner	2007-present

16. Have you ever been employed by any state, district, or local governmental agency in Florida? Yes No If "Yes", identify the position(s), the name(s) of the employing agency, and the period(s) of employment:

POSITION	EMPLOYING AGENCY	PERIOD OF EMPLOYMENT

17. A. State your experiences and interests or elements of your personal history that qualify you for this appointment.

I am a third generation Floridian and the third generation to own this cattle ranch. I have hunted and fished my whole life as well as being involved with camping and boating. We are actively involved with instituting best management practices on our ranch and applying sound conservation guidelines.

B. Have you received any degree(s), professional certification(s), or designations(s) related to the subject matter of this appointment? Yes No If "Yes", list:

I am a senior at FGCU working on a BA degree in Environmental Studies with a minor in biology

C. Have you received any awards or recognitions relating to the subject matter of this appointment? Yes No If "Yes", list:

2011 Land Conservationist of the Year - FL Wildlife Federation

D. Identify all association memberships and association offices held by you that relate to this appointment:

Florida and Collier County Audubon
Florida Wildlife Federation
Defenders of Wildlife
Florida and Collier County Cattlemen's Assoc. (Secty. of county group)
NRA
National Wild Turkey Federation - Big Cypress Longbeards Chapter
Collier Sportman's & Conservation Club

18. Do you currently hold an office or position (appointive, civil service, or other) with the federal or any foreign government? Yes No If "Yes", list:

19. A. Have you ever been elected or appointed to any public office in this state? Yes No If "Yes", state the office title, date of election or appointment, term of office, and level of government (city, county, district, state, federal):

OFFICE TITLE	DATE OF ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT	TERM OF OFFICE	LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT
Supervisor/Vice Chair	7-29-04 + 11-4-08	4 yrs.	Ave Maria Stewardship Community District
Board Member/Secty	3/04 + 3/07	3 yrs.	State Big Cypress Basin Board

B. If your service was on an appointed board(s), committee(s), or council(s):

(1) How frequently were meetings scheduled: Big Cypress Basin 6/yr.

(2) If you missed any of the regularly scheduled meetings, state the number of meetings you attended, the number you missed, and the reasons(s) for your absence(s).

MEETINGS ATTENDED

MEETINGS MISSED

REASON FOR ABSENCE

Over 6 years I estimate I missed 3 meetings due to being out of town

20. Has probable cause ever been found that you were in violation of Part III, Chapter 112, F.S., the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees? Yes No If "Yes", give details:

DATE

NATURE OF VIOLATION

DISPOSITION

N/A

21. Have you ever been suspended from any office by the Governor of the State of Florida? Yes No If "Yes", list:

A. Title of office: _____ C. Reason for suspension: _____

B. Date of suspension: _____ D. Result: Reinstated Removed Resigned

22. Have you previously been appointed to any office that required confirmation by the Florida Senate? Yes No If "Yes", list:

A. Title of Office: Board Member - Big Cypress Basin

B. Term of Appointment: 2 three year terms

C. Confirmation results: confirmed

23. Have you ever been refused a fidelity, surety, performance, or other bond? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

N/A

24. Have you held or do you hold an occupational or professional license or certificate in the State of Florida? Yes No If "Yes", provide the title and number, original issue date, and issuing authority. If any disciplinary action (fine, probation, suspension, revocation, disbarment) has ever been taken against you by the issuing authority, state the type and date of the action taken:

LICENSE/CERTIFICATE

ORIGINAL

ISSUING AUTHORITY

DISCIPLINARY ACTION/DATE

TITLE & NUMBER

ISSUE DATE

N/A

25. A. Have you, or businesses of which you have been and owner, officer, or employee, held any contractual or other direct dealings during the last four (4) years with any state or local governmental agency in Florida, including the office or agency to which you have been appointed or are seeking appointment? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

NAME OF BUSINESS

YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO BUSINESS

BUSINESS' RELATIONSHIP TO AGENCY

JB Ranch owner participate in panther predation of calves study with FWX + UF/IFAS

See attached Correction to question No. 25 A.

25. A

From: Liesa Priddy [lpjbranch@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, January 24, 2012 2:39 PM
To: ROBERTS.DAWN
Cc: TISDALE.LYGIA
Subject: Correction to Senate Questionnaire-Aliese Priddy

TO: Ms. Dawn Roberts, Staff Director, Senate Rules Subcommittee on Ethics & Elections

Ms. Roberts:

Please correct the Senate Questionnaire I completed as an appointee to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to show that the calf depredation research project which is being conducted on my ranch is in conjunction with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and **NOT** the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC). On the questionnaire I indicated "FWC" and it should have been "FWS".

I apologize for this error and any inconvenience it may have caused. Please let me know if you need anything else in regards to this.

Best regards,
Aliese (Liesa) Priddy
239-289-0065

B. Have members of your immediate family (spouse, child, parents(s), siblings(s)), or businesses of which members of your immediate family have been owners, officers, or employees, held any contractual or other direct dealings during the last four (4) years with any state or local governmental agency in Florida, including the office or agency to which you have been appointed or are seeking appointment? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

NAME OF BUSINESS	FAMILY MEMBER'S RELATIONSHIP TO YOU	FAMILY MEMBER'S RELATIONSHIP TO BUSINESS	BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP TO AGENCY
JB Ranch	husband	co-owner	same as 25A

26. Have you ever been a registered lobbyist or have you lobbied at any level of government at any time during the past five (5) years? Yes No

A. Did you receive any compensation other than reimbursement for expenses? Yes No

B. Name of agency or entity you lobbied and the principal(s) you represented:

AGENCY LOBBIED	PRINCIPAL REPRESENTED
FL Legislature	Collier County & FL Cattlemen's Assoc.

27. List three persons who have known you well within the past five (5) years. Include a current, complete address and telephone number. Exclude your relatives and members of the Florida Senate.

NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	ZIP CODE	AREA CODE/PHONE NUMBER
Joe English			

Russell Budd
Nancy Casey

28. Name any business, professional, occupational, civic, or fraternal organizations(s) of which you are now a member, or of which you have been a member during the past five (5) years, the organization address(es), and date(s) of your membership(s).

NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	OFFICE(S) HELD & TERM	DATE(S) OF MEMBERSHIP
Collier Sportsmen's & Conservation Club	Naples, FL		2006-present
FL & Collier County Cattlemen's Assoc.	Kissimmee, FL	none	2007-present
FL Cracker Cattle Assoc.	Tallahassee, FL	none	2007-present
Zeta Tau Alpha	Indianapolis, IN	none	1976-present
Leadership Collier	Naples, FL	none	1995-present
Collier County Junior Deputies League	Naples, FL	board	2002-present

29. Do you know of any reason why you will not be able to attend fully to the duties of the office or position to which you have been or will be appointed? Yes No If "Yes", explain:

MA

30. If required by law or administrative rule, will you file financial disclosure statements? Yes No

National Wild Turkey Federation - Big Cypress Longbeards Chapter	Naples, FL	none	2003-present
Economic Development Council	Naples, FL	board	2007-2009
Collier County & FL Farm Bureau	Naples & Gainesville, FL	none	1994-present
National Rifle Assoc.	Fairfax, VA	none	2008-present
FL Republican Party	Tallahassee, FL	none	2008-present

also see 17 D

MEMORANDUM

AS A GENERAL MATTER, APPLICATIONS FOR ALL POSITIONS WITHIN STATE GOVERNMENT ARE PUBLIC RECORDS WHICH MAY BE VIEWED BY ANYONE UPON REQUEST. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS LAW FOR IDENTIFYING INFORMATION RELATING TO PAST AND PRESENT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AND THEIR FAMILIES, VICTIMS OF CERTAIN CRIMES, ETC. IF YOU BELIEVE AN EXEMPTION FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS LAW APPLIES TO YOUR SUBMISSION, PLEASE CHECK THIS BOX.

Yes, I assert that identifying information provided in this application should be excluded from inspection under the Public Records Law.

Because: (please provide cite.) _____

IF YOU NEED ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE AS TO THE APPLICABILITY OF ANY PUBLIC RECORDS LAW EXEMPTION TO YOUR SITUATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

The Office of the Attorney General
PL-01, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399
(850) 245-0150

CERTIFICATION

STATE OF FLORIDA, COUNTY OF LEE

Before me, the undersigned Notary Public of Florida, personally appeared Allese P. Priddy, who, after being duly sworn, say: (1) that he/she has carefully and personally prepared or read the answers to the foregoing questions; (2) that the information contained in said answers is complete and true; and (3) that he/she will, as an appointee, fully support the Constitutions of the United States and of the State of Florida.

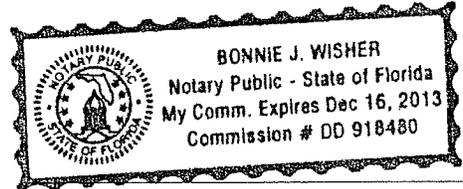
Allese P. Priddy

Signature of Applicant-Affiant

Sworn to and subscribed before me
this 5th day of Jan., 2012

Bonnie J. Wisher

Signature of Notary Public-State of Florida



(Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public)

My commission expires: _____

Personally Known OR Produced Identification

Type of Identification Produced _____

(seal)