

Tab 1	SB 558 by Burgess (CO-INTRODUCERS) Sharief ; Identical to H 00239 Standards for Storm Water Systems						
950356	A	S	RCS	EN, Burgess	Delete L.16 - 48:	01/27	06:06 PM
Tab 2	SB 1294 by Bradley ; Identical to H 01245 Biosolids Management						
145986	D	S	RCS	EN, Bradley	Delete everything after	01/27	06:06 PM
945106	A	S	WD	EN, Bradley	Delete L.59 - 60:	01/26	02:53 PM
Tab 3	SB 1468 by Berman ; Identical to H 01167 Advanced Wastewater Treatment						
918056	A	S	RCS	EN, Gaetz	Delete L.19 - 20:	01/27	06:06 PM
Tab 5	SB 1682 by Trumbull ; Identical to H 01103 Local Administration of Vessel Restrictions						
886550	A	S	RCS	EN, Avila	Delete L.35:	01/27	06:06 PM

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Senator Rodriguez, Chair
 Senator Mayfield, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, January 27, 2026

TIME: 3:30—5:30 p.m.

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

MEMBERS: Senator Rodriguez, Chair; Senator Mayfield, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, DiCeglie, Harrell, Polsky, and Smith

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	SB 558 Burgess (Identical H 239)	Standards for Storm Water Systems; Requiring storm water systems in counties and municipalities, respectively, to comply with specified Department of Transportation standards; providing inspection requirements for such systems; specifying that certain local standards are superseded, etc.	Fav/CS Yea 7 Nays 1
		EN 01/27/2026 Fav/CS CA RC	
2	SB 1294 Bradley (Identical H 1245)	Biosolids Management; Prohibiting the land application of Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products from exceeding the agronomic rate; authorizing bulk Class AA biosolids or biosolids products to be distributed or marketed as fertilizer and land applied if specified requirements are met; authorizing bulk Class AA biosolids compost products to be distributed or marketed as soil amendments and land applied if specified requirements are met; requiring the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences to publish and make publicly available recommended agronomic rates for the reuse of bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products, etc.	Fav/CS Yea 8 Nays 0
		EN 01/27/2026 Fav/CS AEG RC	
3	SB 1468 Berman (Identical H 1167)	Advanced Wastewater Treatment; Requiring certain sewage disposal facilities to submit specified reports to the Department of Environmental Protection beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter; requiring the department, in consultation with water management districts and sewage disposal facilities, to submit specified reports to the Governor and Legislature beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter, and to post such reports on its website, etc.	Favorable Yea 8 Nays 0
		EN 01/27/2026 Favorable AEG FP	

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Environment and Natural Resources

Tuesday, January 27, 2026, 3:30—5:30 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
4	SB 1474 Gaetz (Identical H 1285)	Biosolids Management; Prohibiting the Department of Environmental Protection from issuing or renewing a permit for certain biosolids land application sites if there is a permitted wastewater treatment facility that accepts septage for higher levels of treatment within a specified distance of the application site and which meets specified requirements, etc. EN 01/27/2026 Fav/CS AEG RC	Fav/CS Yea 8 Nays 0
5	SB 1682 Trumbull (Identical H 1103)	Local Administration of Vessel Restrictions; Authorizing counties and municipalities to adopt ordinances to administer, in coordination with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, certain provisions relating to vessels at risk of becoming derelict, the enforcement of long-term anchoring permit requirements, and derelict and migrant vessels, respectively; authorizing counties and municipalities to designate code enforcement officers for specified purposes; providing that certain determinations made by the code enforcement officers are for administrative purposes only and are not criminal findings, etc. EN 01/27/2026 Favorable AEG RC	Favorable Yea 8 Nays 0
6	SB 1628 Avila (Similar H 1217)	Net-zero Policies by Governmental Entities; Prohibiting governmental entities from adopting or requiring the adoption of net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from expending government funds to support, implement, or advance net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from imposing taxes, fees, penalties, charges, offsets, or assessments to advance net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from implementing, administering, or enforcing a program that functions as a cap-and-trade program, etc. EN 01/27/2026 Fav/CS FT AP	Fav/CS Yea 5 Nays 3

Other Related Meeting Documents

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 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

BILL: CS/SB 558

INTRODUCER: Senators Burgess and Sharief

SUBJECT: Standards for Stormwater Systems

DATE: January 27, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Barriero	Rogers	EN	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.		CA	
3.		RC	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 558 requires all new stormwater systems owned by counties and municipalities to comply with the Florida Department of Transportation's standard specifications for pipe culverts and pipe liners. The bill also requires final inspections for all storm pipes and storm structures to be performed by a NASSCO-certified technician employed by a third-party licensed engineering firm or any general contractor and authorizes the use of closed-circuit television inspection equipment. The bill further provides that these installation and inspection standards supersede all existing local standards.

II. Present Situation:

Stormwater Management

Florida averages 40-60 inches of rainfall a year, depending on the location, with about two-thirds falling between June and October.¹ Stormwater runoff generated during these rain events flows over land and impervious surfaces, such as paved streets, parking lots, driveways, sidewalks, and rooftops, and picks up pollutants like trash, chemicals, oils, and sediment.² This unfiltered water flows into lakes, rivers, and wetlands and gradually seeps into groundwater aquifers that supply

¹ University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, *Florida Rainfall Data Sources and Types*, 1 (2023), available at <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/publication/AE517>.

² U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), *Urbanization and Stormwater Runoff*, <https://www.epa.gov/sourcewaterprotection/urbanization-and-stormwater-runoff> (last visited Jan. 20, 2026).

the state's drinking water.³ Polluted stormwater runoff is one of the greatest threats to clean water in the United States.⁴

Florida was the first state in the country to adopt a rule requiring the treatment of stormwater to a specified level of pollutant load reduction for all new development.⁵ These rules were updated in 2024 following legislative ratification. The revised rules:

- Create new minimum performance standards for stormwater systems;
- Require applicants to demonstrate through modeling and calculations based on local conditions and annual runoff volumes that their proposed stormwater treatment system is designed to discharge to the required treatment level; and
- Establish new requirements for periodic inspections and the operation and maintenance of stormwater treatment systems.⁶

The new inspection requirements under the revised rules do not apply to municipal separate storm and sewer (MS4) entities. An MS4 is a publicly-owned conveyance or system of conveyances (e.g., ditches, curbs, catch basins, underground pipes) for collecting or conveying stormwater and discharges to surface waters of the state.⁷ MS4 entities include, but are not limited to, municipalities, counties, community development districts, universities, military bases or federal correctional facilities.⁸ MS4 entities must conduct and report inspections in accordance with their MS4 permit requirements and any associated standard operating procedures.⁹

Operators of large, medium, and regulated small MS4s are required to obtain a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge to waters of the state.¹⁰ For large and medium MS4 discharges, the permit application must include a proposed management program, including priorities and procedures for inspections, to detect and remove illicit discharges and improper disposal into the sewer system.¹¹ Permittees may also be required to allow DEP personnel to inspect facilities, equipment, practices, and operations regulated under a NPDES generic permit.¹²

³ South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), *Your Impact on the Environment*, <https://www.sfwmd.gov/community-residents/what-can-you-do> (last visited Jan. 5, 2026).

⁴ *Id.*; EPA, *Soak Up the Rain: What's the Problem?*, <https://www.epa.gov/soakuptherain/soak-rain-whats-problem> (last visited Jan. 20, 2026).

⁵ DEP, *ERP Stormwater*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/submerged-lands-environmental-resources-coordination/content/erp-stormwater> (last visited Jan. 5, 2026).

⁶ See chapter 2024-275, Laws of Fla.; Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-330.

⁷ DEP, *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/stormwater/content/municipal-separate-storm-sewer-systems-ms4> (last visited Jan. 6, 2026).

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ DEP, *ERP Applicant's Handbook: Vol. I* at s. 12.5(b)., available at <https://flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-15342>.

¹⁰ DEP, *Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4)*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/stormwater/content/municipal-separate-storm-sewer-systems-ms4> (last visited Jan. 6, 2026). See also Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-624.400; 40 C.F.R. 122.26.

¹¹ 40 C.F.R. 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1).

¹² Fla. Admin. Code Form 62-621.300(7)(a), available at <https://floridadep.gov/water/stormwater/forms/phase-ii-ms4-generic-permit-2021>.

Florida Department of Transportation (DOT) Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction

DOT's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction contain technical requirements for performing road, bridge, and related infrastructure work under DOT contracts.¹³

The specifications address contract administration, contractor obligations, quality control, inspection, and payment.¹⁴ They include uniform standards for construction methods and materials, including requirements for structures such as bridges, pipes, culverts, drains, and retaining walls. The specifications are updated annually and published on DOT's website.¹⁵

Pipe Culverts

Section 430 of DOT's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction contains requirements for pipe culverts, which are buried conduits used to convey stormwater beneath roadways, embankments, and other infrastructure. Under DOT standards, pipe culverts and drainage products must be obtained from DOT-approved production facilities and installed in accordance with approved plans and materials specifications.¹⁶ The standards establish requirements for trench excavation, foundation preparation, removal of existing pipes, backfilling, end treatments, and protection of pipes embedded in concrete.¹⁷ Section 430 also requires post-installation video inspections¹⁸ and the submittal of video files and a pipe observation summary report to DOT.¹⁹ Inspection reports must document cracks, joint separations, infiltration, and damage.²⁰ DOT must review inspection videos and reports prior to the continuation of paving, and reinspection may be required if deficiencies are identified.²¹ Section 430 also contains payment requirements and costs that must be included in the contract unit price.²²

Pipe Liner

Section 431 of DOT's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction provides requirements for rehabilitating drainage pipes by installing a pipe liner.²³ Pipe liners are installed inside existing pipes to rehabilitate deteriorated drainage infrastructure without full pipe replacement. DOT standards provide that materials must conform to certain specifications unless otherwise approved by DOT and that the host pipe must be inspected via closed circuit television

¹³ See DOT, *Standard Specifications Library*, <https://www.fdot.gov/specifications/standard-specification-library> (last visited Jan. 6, 2026).

¹⁴ See generally DOT, *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction FY2026-27* (2025), available at [https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/specifications/by-year/fy-2026-27/ebook/fy-2026-27-ebook\(signed\).pdf?sfvrsn=247dee0_1](https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/specifications/by-year/fy-2026-27/ebook/fy-2026-27-ebook(signed).pdf?sfvrsn=247dee0_1).

¹⁵ See DOT, *Standard Specifications Library*.

¹⁶ DOT, *Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction FY2026-27* at 476.

¹⁷ *Id.* at 478-488.

¹⁸ Prior to conducting the inspection, an inspection schedule must be submitted to DOT for dewatering the installed pipe and the removal of all silt, debris, and obstructions. *Id.* at 480.

¹⁹ *Id.* at 479-481. Notes should be taken during the video recording process and submitted along with the video. The video must include identifying information for each pipe segment and be recorded at a controlled speed with distance markings. *Id.* at 480.

²⁰ *Id.* at 480-481.

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Id.* at 486-88.

²³ See *id.* at 489-492.

prior to and following liner installation.²⁴ Videos of all preliminary and final inspections must be submitted to DOT.²⁵ Installation methods are generally required to follow recognized industry standards or manufacturer instructions.²⁶ Contract prices must be calculated per linear foot of pipe liner and inclusive of all material and labor costs and inspection work.²⁷

National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO)

NASSCO is a nonprofit trade association that develops industry standards, training, and certification programs for the assessment, maintenance, and rehabilitation of underground infrastructure.²⁸ NASSCO offers several certification programs, including the Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP), which certifies technicians to perform inspections of pipelines.²⁹ PACP certified professionals must be recertified every three years.³⁰

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Sections 1 and 2 create ss. 125.5695 and 166.04815, F.S., regarding standards for stormwater systems in counties and municipalities, respectively. The bill provides that all stormwater systems owned by counties and municipalities in this state, when installing new storm pipe and storm structures, must follow the annual Department of Transportation's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction contained in the sections "Pipe Culverts" and "Pipe Liner," except for any requirement that the Department of Transportation review or approve installation plans, inspection videos, or inspection reports.

The bill provides that final inspections for all storm pipe and storm structures in counties and municipalities in this state must be performed by a National Association of Sewer Service Companies (NASSCO) Pipeline Assessment Certification Program certified technician who is employed by a third-party licensed engineering firm or any general contractor that does not have a controlling interest in the company that installed the storm system being inspected. The inspection and video process may use standard closed-circuit television inspection equipment, along with an optional camera with a fisheye lens for video inspection purposes.

The bill provides that the standards for installation and inspection established in the bill supersede all existing and local standards in counties and municipalities.

²⁴ *Id.* at 489. The closed-circuit television inspection may be augmented by a visual inspection in which persons enter the host pipe for inspection. DOT must provide written approval prior to allowing persons to enter the pipe. *Id.*

²⁵ *Id.* at 490.

²⁶ *Id.* Acceptable installation methods include sliplining, inverting, pulling/pushing, spiral winding, paneling, coating, or bursting. *Id.* at 489.

²⁷ *Id.* at 490.

²⁸ See generally NASSCO, *Guiding Principles*, <https://nassco.org/about/guiding-principles/> (last visited Jan. 7, 2026).

²⁹ See generally NASSCO, *PACP, LACP, MACP*, <https://nassco.org/education-and-training/pacp-lacp-macp/> (last visited Jan. 6, 2026).

³⁰ NASSCO, *PACP, LACP, MACP*, <https://nassco.org/education-and-training/pacp-lacp-macp/> (last visited Jan. 6, 2026); NASSCO, *PACP, LACP, MACP Recertification Policy*, 1 (2025), available at

<https://nassco.my.salesforce.com/sfc/p/#4W000005j1mm/a/PW0000028mhR/ii.H9ljbhGGdkAhKmcBXolxU45zgksm7UHW9KmGUmyI>.

Section 3 provides that the Legislature determines and declares that this act fulfills an important state interest.

Section 4 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

The municipality/county mandates provision of Art. VII, s. 18(a) of the Florida Constitution may apply to this bill. The Florida Constitution limits the ability of the State to impose unfunded mandates on local governments. This bill requires counties and municipalities to expend funds to retain certified professionals to inspect their stormwater systems. However, the bill includes a legislative determination that the bill fulfills an important state interest. Therefore, the bill may comply with Art. VII, s. 18(a) of the Florida Constitution if passed by two-thirds of the membership of each house of the legislature.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill requires counties and municipalities to expend funds to ensure that newly installed stormwater systems comply with Department of Transportation standards and are inspected by an independent certified technician.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 125.5695 and 166.04815.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

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

CS by Environment and Natural Resources on Jan. 27, 2026:

- Clarified that the bill applies to stormwater systems owned by counties or municipalities.
- Clarified that the Department of Transportation is not required to review or approve installation plans, inspection videos, or inspection reports.
- Authorized general contractors to conduct final inspections in addition to engineering firms.

B. Amendments:

None.

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



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/27/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (Burgess) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

2

3 Delete lines 16 - 48

4 and insert:

5 125.5695 Standards for stormwater systems.—

6 (1) All stormwater systems owned by counties in this state,
7 when installing new storm pipe and storm structures, must follow
8 the annual Department of Transportation's Standard
9 Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction contained in the
10 sections "Pipe Culverts" and "Pipe Liner," except for any



requirement that the Department of Transportation review or approve installation plans, inspection videos, or inspection reports.

(2) Final inspections for all storm pipe and storm structures owned by counties in this state must be performed by a NASSCO's Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP) certified technician who is employed by a third-party licensed engineering firm or any general contractor that does not have a controlling interest in the company that installed the storm system being inspected. The inspection and video process may use standard closed-circuit television inspection equipment, along with an optional camera with a fisheye lens for video inspection purposes.

(3) The standards for installation and inspection in subsections (1) and (2) supersede all existing and local standards in counties.

Section 2. Section 166.04815, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

166.04815 Standards for stormwater systems.—

(1) All stormwater systems owned by municipalities in this state, when installing new storm pipe and storm structures, must follow the annual Department of Transportation's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge Construction contained in the sections "Pipe Culverts" and "Pipe Liner," except for any requirement that the Department of Transportation review or approve installation plans, inspection videos, or inspection reports.

(2) Final inspections for all storm pipe and storm structures owned by municipalities in this state must be



950356

40 performed by a NASSCO's Pipeline Assessment Certification
41 Program (PACP) certified technician who is employed by a third-
42 party licensed engineering firm or any general contractor that
43 does not have a controlling interest in

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 lines 2 - 4

48 and insert:

49 An act relating to standards for stormwater systems;
50 creating ss. 125.5695 and 166.04815, F.S.; requiring
51 stormwater systems owned by counties and
52 municipalities,

By Senator Burgess

23-00616A-26

2026558

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

14 Section 1. Section 125.5695, Florida Statutes, is created
15 to read:

16 125.5695 Standards for storm water systems.-
17 (1) All storm water systems, including storm pipe and storm
18 structures in counties in this state, when installing new storm
19 pipe and storm structures, must follow the annual Department of
20 Transportation's Standard Specifications for Road and Bridge
21 Construction contained in the sections "Pipe Culverts" and "Pipe
22 Liner."

23 (2) Final inspections for all storm pipe and storm
24 structures in counties in this state must be performed by a
25 NASSCO's Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP)
26 certified technician who is employed by a third-party licensed
27 engineering firm that does not have a controlling interest in
28 the company that installed the storm system being inspected. The
29 inspection and video process may use standard closed-circuit

23-00616A-26

2026558

30 television inspection equipment, along with an optional camera
31 with a fisheye lens for video inspection purposes.

32 (3) The standards for installation and inspection in
33 subsections (1) and (2) supersede all existing and local
34 standards in counties.

35 Section 2. Section 166.04815, Florida Statutes, is created
36 to read:

37 166.04815 Standards for storm water systems.—

38 (1) All storm water systems, including storm pipe and storm
39 structures in municipalities in this state, when installing new
40 storm pipe and storm structures, must follow the annual
41 Department of Transportation's Standard Specifications for Road
42 and Bridge Construction contained in the sections "Pipe
43 Culverts" and "Pipe Liner."

44 (2) Final inspections for all storm pipe and storm
45 structures in municipalities in this state must be performed by
46 a NASSCO's Pipeline Assessment Certification Program (PACP)
47 certified technician who is employed by a third-party licensed
48 engineering firm that does not have a controlling interest in
49 the company that installed the storm system being inspected. The
50 inspection and video process may use standard closed-circuit
51 television inspection equipment, along with an optional camera
52 with a fisheye lens for video inspection purposes.

53 (3) The standards for installation and inspection in
54 subsections (1) and (2) supersede all existing and local
55 standards in municipalities.

56 Section 3. Pursuant to s. 18, Article VII of the State
57 Constitution, the Legislature hereby determines and declares
58 that this act fulfills an important state interest.

23-00616A-26

2026558

59

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

11/29/21
Meeting Date

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 558
Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

S-Environment & Nat.
Committee

Name

KARI HEBRANK

Phone

650-566-7824
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Address

7th fl. Monroe St. #600

Email

Khebrank@carltonfields.
com

Street

Tallahassee FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

National Utility Contractors Assoc. of FL (NUCA FL)

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (f1senate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD1/27/26

Meeting Date

ENV. & NATURAL RES.

Committee

Name PAUL KNIGHTPhone 561-719-2164Address 6522 AMBERWOODS DR.
StreetEmail PKNIGHT@YANKEE.COMBoca RatonFL33433

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information**OR**Waive Speaking: In Support Against**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:** I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:NUCA OF FLORIDA

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

558

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Jan 27, 2026

Meeting Date

Env. & NAT. RES.

Committee

Name Douglas Holdener

Phone 561.352.8959

Address 10857 150th ct N.

Street

Email dholdener@concretepipe.org

Jupiter FL

State

33478

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Florida Concrete Pipe Association

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1/12/27

Meeting Date

Environment

Committee

Name Peter Abello

Address 100 S Monroe st
Street

Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

FL Association
of Counties

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 558

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

706-715-5885

Phone

Email pabello@fl-centers.com

32301

The Florida Senate

1/27/2026

APPEARANCE RECORD

558

Meeting Date

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Environment & Nat. Resources

Committee

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Wm. Clark C. CryerPhone (561) 718-4531Address 170 River Dr.Email ccryer@johnsondavis.com

Street

City TurquoiseState FLZip 33469Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:NUCA of FL

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1/27/26

Meeting Date

ENR

Committee

Name

Karin Coyne

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

558

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone 805-827-5648

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

Florida Stormwater Association

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](http://flesenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

1-27-26

Meeting Date

Sen E NR

Committee

Name Chris Doolin

Address 1018 Thomasville Rd 102B

Street

TLH

FL

32303

City

State

Zip

Phone

850-508-5492

Email

cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Small County Coalition

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

1/27/20

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 558

Bill Number or Topic

ENR

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name

Pamela Watt/Halsey Beshears

Phone

850 933 1731

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Address

201 S Monroe St.

Street

Email

Pamela@legisgroupfl.com

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Atlantic Pipe Services

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Chair
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: December 30, 2025

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill # 558**, relating to Standards for Storm Water Systems, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A blue ink signature of the name "Danny" in a cursive script.

Senator Danny Burgess
Florida Senate, District 23

CC: Ellen Rogers, Staff Director
CC: Kim Bonn, Committee Administrative Assistant

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 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

BILL: CS/SB 1294

INTRODUCER: Environment and Natural Resources Committee and Senator Bradley

SUBJECT: Biosolids Management

DATE: January 27, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Barriero	Rogers	EN	Fav/CS
2. _____	_____	AEG	_____
3. _____	_____	RC	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1294 provides that the land application of bulk Class AA biosolids may not exceed the agronomic rate. The bill requires land application site operators to maintain application records. The bill directs the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences to publish recommended agronomic rates for bulk Class AA biosolids.

The bill provides that, effective July 1, 2028, bulk Class AA biosolids products may be distributed or marketed as fertilizer or soil amendments and land applied only if transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale and in compliance with applicable labeling and registration requirements. If the Class AA biosolids compost products are enrolled and certified under the United States Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance program, they are not required to be distributed or marketed as soil amendment if their labeling does not claim any plant nutrients or beneficial plant growth properties. Additionally, bulk Class AA biosolids compost and fertilizer products that are not distributed, marketed, or sold through a bona fide sale may only be land applied at sites approved by the Department of Environmental Protection unless they are enrolled and certified under the United States Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance program.

The bill also creates exceptions for sales or exchanges between importers, manufacturers, or licensees.

The bill also provides that the bona fide sale requirement does not apply when a biosolids treatment facility owns or controls the land where the bulk Class AA biosolids are land applied; however, such products must still comply with all applicable registration and labeling requirements before land application.

II. Present Situation:

Biosolids

The proper treatment and disposal or reuse of domestic wastewater is an important part of protecting Florida's water resources. The majority of Florida's domestic wastewater is controlled and treated by centralized treatment facilities regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Florida has approximately 2,000 permitted domestic wastewater treatment facilities.¹

When domestic wastewater is treated, solid, semisolid, or liquid residue known as biosolids² accumulates in the wastewater treatment plant and must be removed periodically to keep the plant operating properly.³ Biosolids also include products and treated material from biosolids treatment facilities and septic management facilities regulated by DEP.⁴ The collected residue is high in organic content and contains moderate amounts of nutrients, which can make biosolids suitable for use as a soil amendment or fertilizer under appropriate conditions.⁵

Wastewater treatment facilities produce about 461,000 dry tons of biosolids each year.⁶ Biosolids can be disposed of in several ways including placement in a landfill, distribution and marketing as fertilizer, and land application on pasture or agricultural lands.⁷ Biosolids are subject to regulatory requirements established by DEP to protect public health and the environment.⁸

DEP regulates three classes of biosolids for beneficial use: Class AA, Class A, and Class B biosolids.⁹ The classes are categorized based on treatment and quality, with Class AA biosolids receiving the highest level of treatment, and Class B receiving the lowest.¹⁰ Consistent with

¹ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), *General facts and statistics about wastewater in Florida*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/general-facts-and-statistics-about-wastewater-florida> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

² Section 373.4595, F.S., defines biosolids as the solid, semisolid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic wastewater in a domestic wastewater treatment facility and include products and treated material from biosolids treatment facilities and septic management facilities. The term does not include the treated effluent or reclaimed water from a domestic wastewater treatment facility, solids removed from pump stations and lift stations, screenings and grit removed from the preliminary treatment components of domestic wastewater treatment facilities, or ash generated during the incineration of biosolids. *See also* Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200(6).

³ DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/domestic-wastewater-biosolids> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

⁴ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200(6).

⁵ DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*.

⁶ DEP, *Presentation to the Florida Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resource*, 6 (Dec. 9, 2025), available at <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/7981>.

⁷ *See id.*

⁸ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.

⁹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200.

¹⁰ *Id.*; DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*.

federal standards, treatment of biosolids must reduce pathogens, the attractiveness of the biosolids for pests like insects and rodents, and the amount of toxic metals in the biosolids.¹¹ Class AA biosolids can be distributed and marketed like other commercial fertilizers.¹² Such biosolids may be sold or given away.¹³ Class AA biosolids compost products that are distributed and marketed outside of the Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie River, and Caloosahatchee River watersheds do not have to be distributed and marketed as a fertilizer if the biosolids compost product is enrolled and certified under the U.S. Composting Council's (USCC) Seal of Testing Assurance program.¹⁴

Biosolids are regulated under Rule 62-640 of the Florida Administrative Code. The rules provide minimum requirements, including monitoring and reporting requirements, for the treatment, management, use, and disposal of biosolids. The rules are applicable to wastewater treatment facilities, applicators, and distributors¹⁵ and include permit requirements for both treatment facilities and biosolids application sites.¹⁶

Land Application of Biosolids

Land application of biosolids involves spreading biosolids on the soil surface or incorporating or injecting biosolids into the soil at a DEP-permitted site.¹⁷ This practice provides nutrients and organic matter to the soil on agricultural land, golf courses, forests, parks, mine reclamation sites, and other disturbed lands. Composted and treated biosolids are used by landscapers and nurseries and by homeowners for their lawns and home gardens.¹⁸ Biosolids must be treated to at least Class B standards to be land applied.¹⁹ Permits are required for the land application of biosolids unless they have been marketed and distributed as fertilizer.²⁰

Each permit application for a biosolids application site must include a site-specific nutrient management plan (NMP) that establishes the specific rates of application and procedures to apply biosolids to land.²¹ Biosolids may only be applied to land application sites that are permitted by DEP and have a valid NMP.²² Biosolids must be applied at rates established in accordance with the NMP and may be applied to a land application site only if all concentrations of minerals do not exceed ceiling and cumulative concentrations determined by rule.²³ According to the St. Johns River Water Management District, application rates of biosolids are determined

¹¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200; 40 C.F.R. part 503.

¹² DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*; National Biosolids Data Project, *Florida biosolids*, <https://www.biosolidsdata.org/florida> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025); Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.850.

¹³ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.850(2).

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.100.

¹⁶ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.300.

¹⁷ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), *Land application of biosolids*, <https://www.epa.gov/biosolids/land-application-biosolids> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.700(2).

²⁰ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.700(1) and 62-640.850.

²¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.500.

²² *Id.*

²³ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.700.

by crop nitrogen demand, which can often result in the overapplication of phosphorus to the soil and can increase the risk of nutrient runoff into nearby surface waters.²⁴

Once a facility or site is permitted, it is subject to monitoring, record-keeping, reporting, and notification requirements.²⁵ The requirements are site-specific and can be increased or reduced by DEP based on the quality or quantity of wastewater or biosolids treated; historical variations in biosolids characteristics; industrial wastewater or sludge contributions to the facility; the use, land application, or disposal of the biosolids; the water quality of surface and ground water and the hydrogeology of the area; wastewater or biosolids treatment processes; and the compliance history of the facility or application site.²⁶

The land application of Class A and Class B biosolids is also prohibited within priority focus areas in effect for Outstanding Florida Springs if the land application is not in accordance with a NMP that has been approved by DEP.²⁷ The NMP must establish the rate at which all biosolids, soil amendments, and nutrient sources at the land application site can be applied to the land for crop production while minimizing the amount of pollutants and nutrients discharged into groundwater and waters of the states.²⁸ In addition, DEP may not authorize the land application of domestic wastewater biosolids within the Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, or St. Lucie River watersheds unless the applicant demonstrates that the biosolids will not contribute to nutrient loadings in the applicable watershed, with a limited exception for Class AA biosolids that are marketed and distributed as fertilizer.²⁹

Permittees applying Class A or Class B biosolids must ensure a minimum unsaturated soil depth of 2 feet between the depth of biosolids placement and the water table level at the time of application.³⁰ Permittees must also be enrolled in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services best management practices program or be within an agricultural operation enrolled in the program for the applicable commodity type.³¹

Historically, about two-thirds of all biosolids produced have been land applied.³² However, between 2018 and 2024, the number of biosolids land application sites decreased from 120 to 58.³³ These reductions are expected to continue in the future.³⁴ Other disposal methods, including distribution and marketing of Class AA biosolids products and landfilling, are increasing.³⁵ Florida Class AA and Class B biosolids are also marketed and distributed out of state.³⁶

²⁴ V. R. Hoge et al., *Developing a biosolids database for watershed modeling efforts*, Environmental Scientist IV, St. Johns River Water Management District, abstract available at http://archives.waterinstitute.ufl.edu/symposium2018/abstract_detail.asp?AssignmentID=1719 (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

²⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.650.

²⁶ *Id.*

²⁷ Section 373.811(4), F.S.

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ Section 373.4595(3)(b)16., (4)(b)5., and (4)(d)5., F.S.

³⁰ Section 403.0855(3)(a), F.S.

³¹ Section 403.0855(3)(b), F.S.

³² DEP, *Biosolids in Florida*, 5 (2019), available at <https://www.floridastormwater.org/assets/MemberServices/Conference/AC19/02%20-%20Frick%20Tom.pdf>.

³³ DEP, *Presentation to the Florida Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resource*, 5 (Dec. 9, 2025), available at <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/7981>.

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ *Id.* at 6.

³⁶ Email from DEP On File with Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

United States Composting Council's Seal of Testing Assurance Program

Formed in 1990, the United States Composting Council (USCC) is a national nonprofit organization focused on the development and support of the composting and organics recycling industry in the United States.³⁷ USCC provides training, education, and certification for compost facility operators, administers compost testing certification programs, and engages in state and federal lobbying and advocacy.³⁸

USCC's Seal of Testing Assurance Program is a national compost testing, labeling, and information disclosure program that uses standardized analytical methods and laboratory oversight to certify and provide data on compost products.³⁹ To obtain Seal of Testing Assurance certification, a compost manufacturer and its products must satisfy the following requirements:

- Meet USCC's definition of compost.⁴⁰
- Comply with all applicable federal, state, and local regulations and permitting requirements. Immediately inform USCC if an issue arises.
- Conduct product testing through approved laboratories.
- Test products at frequencies determined by the annual wet tonnage of finished compost produced and provide test results to USCC.
- Provide customers with Seal of Testing Assurance Compost Technical Data Sheets, including information on feedstocks and instructions for use.
- Meet the Environmental Protection Agency's testing limits for heavy metals and pathogens.
- Execute a Seal of Testing Assurance Certified Compost rules contract.
- Pay annual program fees.
- Renew program participation contracts and pay associated fees annually for each certified product.⁴¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 403.0855, F.S., regarding biosolids management. The bill provides that the land application of bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products may not exceed the agronomic rate. Application records must be maintained by the land application site operator.

³⁷ See generally USCC, *About Us*, <https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/AboutUs> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ See USCC, *STA Certified Compost*, <https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/CompostManufacturersSTA> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026); USCC, *STA Requirements*, <https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/STA-Requirements> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

⁴⁰ USCC defines compost as "a product manufactured through the controlled aerobic, biological decomposition of biodegradable materials. The product has undergone mesophilic and thermophilic temperatures, which significantly reduces the viability of pathogens and weed seeds, and stabilizes the carbon, such that it is beneficial to plant growth. Compost is typically used as a soil amendment but may also contribute plant nutrients." USCC, *Definition of Compost*, <https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/CompostDefinition> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

⁴¹ USCC, *STA Requirements*, <https://www.compostingcouncil.org/page/STA-Requirements> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

The bill directs the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences⁴² to, on a biennial basis, publish and make publicly available the recommended agronomic rates for the beneficial reuse of bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products based on predominant application practices.

Section 2 amends s. 403.0855, F.S., regarding biosolids management, effective July 1, 2028. The bill provides that bulk Class AA biosolids or biosolids products may be distributed or marketed as fertilizer and may be land applied if such biosolids and products are transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale as fertilizer and meet all applicable labeling and registration requirements. The bill defines "bona fide sale" as a sale in which monetary consideration is paid for the biosolids fertilizer or biosolids compost product, and the amount paid bears a reasonable relationship to the fair market value of comparable marketable fertilizer or soil-amendment products. A nominal charge, an exchange arrangement, a transfer made to offset disposal costs, or a transfer in which the biosolids treatment facility compensates the recipient does not constitute a bona fide sale. A transaction does not constitute a bona fide sale if its price, structure, or associated payments are arranged for the purpose of avoiding compliance with the bona fide sale requirements.

The bill authorizes bulk Class AA biosolids compost products to be distributed or marketed as soil amendments and land applied if such products are transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale and meet all applicable labeling and registration requirements. The bill provides that class AA biosolids compost products, if their labeling does not claim any plant nutrients or beneficial plant growth properties, are not required to be distributed or marketed as a soil amendment or a fertilizer if the Class AA biosolids compost product is enrolled and certified under the United States Composting Council's (USCC's) Seal of Testing Assurance program.

The bill provides that bulk Class AA biosolids compost and fertilizer products that are not distributed, marketed, or sold through a bona fide sale as a fertilizer or soil amendment may only be land applied at land application sites expressly approved by the Department of Environmental Protection. This does not apply to Class AA biosolids compost products enrolled and certified under USCC's Seal of Testing Assurance program.

The bill specifies that the requirement for a bona fide sale does not apply to biosolids treatment facilities that own or control the land where the bulk Class AA fertilizer or compost biosolids products are being land applied; however, bulk Class AA products that are land applied on land owned or controlled by a biosolids treatment facility must still meet all applicable registration and labeling requirements prior to land application.

The bill provides that the bona fide sale requirements do not apply to sales or exchanges between importers, manufacturers, or licensees.

Section 3 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

⁴² The University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (UF/IFAS) is a federal-state-county partnership dedicated to developing knowledge in agriculture, human and natural resources, and the life sciences. UF/IFAS, *About UF/IFAS*, <https://ifas.ufl.edu/about-us/> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Private entities may incur indeterminate costs to acquire bulk Class AA biosolids products through bona fide sales.

C. Government Sector Impact:

University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences may incur indeterminate costs to publish recommended agronomic rates for Class AA biosolids. Public utilities may incur indeterminate costs to treat and dispose of biosolids given the additional requirements in the bill.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 403.0855 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

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

CS by Environment and Natural Resources on Jan. 27, 2026:

- Provided that the bona fide sale requirements and related exemptions are effective July 1, 2028.
- Provided that the exemption from the requirement that Class AA biosolids compost products be distributed or marketed as a soil amendment or fertilizer applies only if the labeling does not claim any plant nutrients or beneficial plant growth properties.
- Removed the reference to the federal definition of “agronomic rate.”
- Removed the provision that limited the agronomic rate requirement to applications constituting disposal.
- Removed the reference to the slow-release nature of the nutrients in biosolids-derived products.

B. Amendments:

None.

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



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/27/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (Bradley) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

2
3 Delete everything after the enacting clause
4 and insert:

5 Section 1. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section
6 403.0855, Florida Statutes, to read:

7 403.0855 Biosolids management.—

8 (7) The land application of bulk Class AA biosolids
9 fertilizer and compost products may not exceed the appropriate
10 agronomic rate. Application records must be maintained by the



11 land application site operator.

12 (8) The University of Florida's Institute of Food and
13 Agricultural Sciences shall, on a biennial basis, publish and
14 make publicly available the recommended agronomic rates for the
15 beneficial reuse of bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and
16 compost products based on predominant application practices.

17 Section 2. Effective July 1, 2028, subsections (9) through
18 (13) are added to section 403.0855, Florida Statutes, as amended
19 by this act, to read:

20 403.0855 Biosolids management.—

21 (9) (a) Bulk Class AA biosolids or biosolids products may be
22 distributed or marketed as fertilizer in accordance with chapter
23 576 and may be land applied if such biosolids and products are
24 transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale as fertilizer and meet
25 all applicable labeling and registration requirements.

26 (b) As used in this section, the term "bona fide sale"
27 means a sale in which monetary consideration is paid for the
28 biosolids fertilizer or biosolids compost product, and the
29 amount paid bears a reasonable relationship to the fair market
30 value of comparable marketable fertilizer or soil-amendment
31 products. A nominal charge, an exchange arrangement, a transfer
32 made to offset disposal costs, or a transfer in which the
33 biosolids treatment facility compensates the recipient does not
34 constitute a bona fide sale. A transaction does not constitute a
35 bona fide sale if its price, structure, or associated payments
36 are arranged for the purpose of avoiding compliance with
37 paragraph (a) or subsection (10).

38 (10) (a) Bulk Class AA biosolids compost products may be
39 distributed or marketed as soil amendments in accordance with



40 chapter 576 and may be land applied if such products are
41 transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale and meet all applicable
42 labeling and registration requirements.

43 (b) Class AA biosolids compost products, if their labeling
44 does not claim any plant nutrients or beneficial plant growth
45 properties, are not required to be distributed or marketed as a
46 soil amendment or a fertilizer, as those terms are defined in s.
47 576.011, if the Class AA biosolids compost products are enrolled
48 and certified under the U.S. Composting Council's Seal of
49 Testing Assurance program.

50 (11) Bulk Class AA biosolids compost and fertilizer
51 products that are not distributed, marketed, or sold through a
52 bona fide sale as a fertilizer or soil amendment may be land
53 applied only at land application sites expressly approved by the
54 Department of Environmental Protection. This subsection does not
55 apply to Class AA biosolids compost products enrolled and
56 certified under the U.S. Composting Council's Seal of Testing
57 Assurance program.

58 (12) The requirement for a bona fide sale does not apply to
59 biosolids treatment facilities that own or control the land
60 where the bulk Class AA fertilizer or compost biosolids products
61 are being land applied; however, bulk Class AA products that are
62 land applied on land owned or controlled by a biosolids
63 treatment facility must still meet all applicable registration
64 and labeling requirements before land application.

65 (13) Subsections (9), (10), and (11) do not apply to sales
66 or exchanges between importers, manufacturers, or licensees
67 under s. 576.141.

68 Section 3. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this



145986

69 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

70

71 | ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

72 | And the title is amended as follows:

73 Delete everything before the enacting clause
74 and insert:



98 bulk Class AA products that are land applied on
99 certain lands meet certain requirements before land
100 application; providing applicability; providing
101 effective dates.



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
01/26/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (Bradley) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment**

2

3 Delete lines 59 - 60

4 and insert:

5 (b) Class AA biosolids compost products, if the labeling
6 does not claim any plant nutrients or beneficial plant growth
7 properties, are not required to be distributed or marketed as a
8 soil amendment or a fertilizer, as those terms are defined in s.
9 576.011,

By Senator Bradley

6-01144A-26

20261294

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to biosolids management; amending s. 403.0855, F.S.; prohibiting the land application of Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products from exceeding the agronomic rate; requiring the land application site operator to maintain application records; authorizing bulk Class AA biosolids or biosolids products to be distributed or marketed as fertilizer and land applied if specified requirements are met; defining the term "bona fide sale"; authorizing bulk Class AA biosolids compost products to be distributed or marketed as soil amendments and land applied if specified requirements are met; providing an exception; requiring that certain bulk Class AA biosolids compost and fertilizer products be land applied at land application sites approved by the Department of Environmental Protection; providing applicability; requiring the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences to publish and make publicly available recommended agronomic rates for the reuse of bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and compost products; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (7) through (13) are added to section 403.0855, Florida Statutes, to read:

403.0855 Biosolids management.—

6-01144A-26

20261294

30 (7) The land application of bulk Class AA biosolids
31 fertilizer and compost products may not exceed the agronomic
32 rate, as that term is defined in 40 C.F.R. s. 503.11, to the
33 extent that such application constitutes disposal, considering
34 the slow-release nature of nitrogen and phosphorus in biosolids-
35 derived products. Application records must be maintained by the
36 land application site operator.

37 (8) (a) Bulk Class AA biosolids or biosolids products may be
38 distributed or marketed as fertilizer in accordance with chapter
39 576, and may be land applied if such biosolids and products are
40 transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale as fertilizer and meet
41 all applicable labeling and registration requirements.

42 (b) As used in this section, the term "bona fide sale"
43 means a sale in which monetary consideration is paid for the
44 biosolids fertilizer or biosolids compost product, and the
45 amount paid bears a reasonable relationship to the fair market
46 value of comparable marketable fertilizer or soil-amendment
47 products. A nominal charge, an exchange arrangement, a transfer
48 made to offset disposal costs, or a transfer in which the
49 biosolids treatment facility compensates the recipient does not
50 constitute a bona fide sale. A transaction does not constitute a
51 bona fide sale if its price, structure, or associated payments
52 are arranged for the purpose of avoiding compliance with
53 paragraph (a) or subsection (9).

54 (9) (a) Bulk Class AA biosolids compost products may be
55 distributed or marketed as soil amendments in accordance with
56 chapter 576 and may be land applied if such products are
57 transferred pursuant to a bona fide sale and meet all applicable
58 labeling and registration requirements.

6-01144A-26

20261294

59 (b) Class AA biosolids compost products are not required to
60 be distributed or marketed as a soil amendment or a fertilizer
61 if the Class AA biosolids compost product is enrolled and
62 certified under the United States Composting Council's Seal of
63 Testing Assurance program.

64 (10) Bulk Class AA biosolids compost and fertilizer
65 products that are not distributed, marketed, or sold through a
66 bona fide sale as a fertilizer or soil amendment may only be
67 land applied at land application sites expressly approved by the
68 Department of Environmental Protection. This subsection does not
69 apply to Class AA biosolids compost products enrolled and
70 certified under the United States Composting Council's Seal of
71 Testing Assurance program.

72 (11) The requirement for a bona fide sale does not apply to
73 biosolids treatment facilities that own or control the land
74 where the bulk Class AA fertilizer or compost biosolids products
75 are being land applied; however, bulk Class AA products that are
76 land applied on land owned or controlled by a biosolids
77 treatment facility must still meet all applicable registration
78 and labeling requirements prior to land application.

79 (12) Subsections (8), (9), and (10) do not apply to sales
80 or exchanges between importers, manufacturers, or licensees
81 under s. 576.141.

82 (13) The University of Florida's Institute of Food and
83 Agricultural Sciences shall, on a biennial basis, publish and
84 make publicly available the recommended agronomic rates for the
85 beneficial reuse of bulk Class AA biosolids fertilizer and
86 compost products based on predominant application practices.

87 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

1/27/26

Meeting Date

EN ~~EN~~ + Natt Resources

Committee

Name

Tim Day

Phone

850 555 1144

Address

7455 Wymore Rd

Street

Pensacola

FL

32526

City

State

Zip

Email

Speaking:



For



Against



Information

OR

Waive Speaking:



In Support



Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

On behalf of
Escambia County



I am a registered lobbyist, representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1-27-76

Meeting Date

NR+Env

Committee

Name John November

Address 2029 Third St N

Street

Jacksonville Beach Pl

City

State

Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1294

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

904-525-3042

Email john@publicfirstlaw.org

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

01/27/26

Meeting Date

Env. & Nat. Res.

Committee

Name Alicia Keeter

1294

Bill Number or Topic

Address 2970 Wellington Cir

Street

Tallahassee

State

FL

Zip

Phone

Email alicia@frwa.net

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Regulated Industries, *Chair*
Appropriations Committee on Higher
Education, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations Committee on Pre-K - 12 Education
Criminal Justice
Ethics and Elections
Fiscal Policy
Rules

JOINT COMMITTEES:

Joint Committee on Public Counsel Oversight,
Alternating Chair

SENATOR JENNIFER BRADLEY

6th District

January 13, 2026

Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Chair
Senate Committee on Environment & Natural Resources
410 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Dear Chair Rodriguez:

I respectfully request that Senate Bill 1294 be placed on the committee's agenda at your earliest convenience. This bill relates to the management of biosolids.

Thank you for your consideration and please reach out if I can provide additional information or if you have questions about this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer Bradley".

Jennifer Bradley

cc: Ellen Rogers, Staff Director
Kim Bonn, Administrative Assistant

REPLY TO:

- 1845 East West Parkway, Suite 5, Fleming Island, Florida 32003 (904) 278-2085
- 406 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5006

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

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 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

BILL: SB 1468

INTRODUCER: Senator Berman

SUBJECT: Advanced Wastewater Treatment

DATE: January 26, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Barriero	Rogers	EN	Favorable
2. _____	_____	AEG	_____
3. _____	_____	FP	_____

I. Summary:

SB 1468 requires sewage disposal with a permitted capacity of greater than one million gallons per day to submit an annual report to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) beginning July 1, 2027. The report must include the facility's year of construction and any maintenance or upgrades, permitted and actual wastewater treatment volumes, current treatment levels and concentrations of specified contaminants, pollutant load estimates, disposal methods and volumes discharged to receiving waterbodies, spill history, elevation, and location relative to floodplains and coastal hazards.

The bill directs DEP, by December 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, to submit to the Governor and Legislature a report detailing all the information contained in the reports from sewage disposal facilities. The report must also include additional information regarding the impairment status of receiving waterbodies and the implementation of total maximum daily loads and basin management action plans, including assigned load reductions and wasteload allocations for pollutants of concern.

II. Present Situation:

Wastewater

Domestic sewage contains toxicants, solid waste, plastics, and bacterial contaminants.¹ It also contains nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus.² Once wastewater is treated to standards set and monitored by state and federal officials, it is typically released into a local waterbody.³ However, conventional wastewater treatment is often ineffective at removing certain pollutants, such as contaminants of emerging concern, heavy metals, *Escherichia coli* (e. coli), pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and microplastics.⁴ As a result, the discharge of conventionally treated wastewater can be a significant source of pollution in aquatic ecosystems, leading to documented declines in biodiversity and essential ecosystem functions.⁵

Advanced wastewater treatment (AWT) has been shown to be more effective at reducing effluent toxicity than conventional treatment.⁶ There are several types of AWT technologies. Some AWT methods such as membrane bioreactor filtration can treat wastewater to match the physical, chemical, and biological properties of the waterbody the treated water will be discharged into.⁷ Membrane bioreactors and other AWT technologies, including oxidation processes and powdered activated carbon, have also been shown to be effective at removing micropollutants

¹ Mehtab Haseena et al., *Water pollution and human health*, Environmental Risk Assessment and Remediation, vol. 1, 16, 18 (2017), available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/326828651_Water_pollution_and_human_health. See also C. Chahal et al., *Pathogen and particle Associations in wastewater: Significance and Implications for Treatment and Disinfection Processes*, Advances in Applied Microbiology, vol. 97, 68 (2016), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0065216416300971>.

² See Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), *Nutrient Pollution: Sources and Solutions: Wastewater*, <https://www.epa.gov/nutrientpollution/sources-and-solutions-wastewater> (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).

³ *Id.*

⁴ See Joshua Matesun et al., *Limitations of wastewater treatment plants in removing trace anthropogenic biomarkers and future directions: A review*, Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety, 1 (2024), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0147651324006869>; Jonas Margot et al., *Treatment of micropollutants in municipal wastewater: Ozone or powdered activated carbon?*, Science of The Total Environment, 480 (2013), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0048969713005779?via%3Dihub>; Sunanda Mishra et al., *Membrane bioreactor (MBR) as an advanced wastewater treatment technology for removal of synthetic microplastics*, Development in Wastewater Treatment Research and processes, 45 (2022), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/B9780323855839000223>.

⁵ See Daniel Stalter et al., *Do Contaminants Originating from State-of-the-Art Treated Wastewater Impact the Ecological Quality of Surface Waters?*, Plos One, vol. 8, 8 (2013), available at <https://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0060616>; Katja Bunzel et al., *Effects of organic pollutants from wastewater treatment plants on aquatic invertebrate communities*, Water Research, vol. 47, 597 (2013), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0043135412007610?via%3Dihub>; Dania Albini et al., *The combined effects of treated sewage discharge and land use on rivers*, Global Change Biology, 6415 (2023), available at <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10946937/>.

⁶ Johannes Völker et al., *Systematic Review of Toxicity Removal by Advanced Wastewater Treatment Technologies via Ozonation and Activated Carbon*, American Chemical Society ES&T, vol. 53, 7226 (2019), available at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/acs.est.9b00570>.

⁷ University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, *Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT)*, <https://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasotaco/2020/07/30/advanced-wastewater-treatment-awt/> (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).

such as pharmaceuticals, pesticides, and microplastics,⁸ and nutrients like phosphorus.⁹ Adsorption processes have also been shown to be potential solutions for the removal of micropollutants in advanced treatment plants.¹⁰

Domestic Wastewater Treatment Facilities in Florida

The majority of the state's wastewater is controlled and treated by centralized treatment facilities regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).¹¹ Florida has approximately 2,000 permitted domestic wastewater treatment facilities.¹²

Wastewater treatment facilities are required to provide secondary treatment prior to reuse or disposal.¹³ Such treatment requires that carbonaceous biochemical oxygen demand (CBOD5) and total suspended solids (TSS) not exceed specific levels based on the method of disposal (i.e., surface water disposal, reuse, land application, or groundwater discharge).¹⁴ For example, for land application or groundwater discharge, the annual average of CBOD5 and total suspended solids may not exceed 20.0 milligrams per liter (mg/L), and the maximum-permissible concentration in any single sample may not exceed 60.0 mg/L.¹⁵

AWT provides a reclaimed water product containing no more than the following concentrations of pollutants:

- 5 mg/L of Biochemical Oxygen Demand;
- 5 mg/L of Suspended Solids;
- 3 mg/L of total nitrogen; and
- 1 mg/L of total phosphorous.¹⁶

⁸ See Margot, *Treatment of micropollutants in municipal wastewater: Ozone or powdered activated carbon?* at 480; Radhakrishnan Krishnan et al., *Recent approaches and advanced wastewater treatment technologies for mitigating emerging microplastics contamination—A critical review*, *Science of the Total Environment*, vol. 858 (2023), available at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S004896972206781X?via%3Dihub>.

⁹ EPA, *Advanced Wastewater Treatment to Achieve Low Concentration of Phosphorus*, 3 (2007), available at <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2019-02/documents/advanced-wastewater-treatment-low-concentration-phosphorus.pdf>.

¹⁰ Biniam Belete et al., *Micropollutant Removal Efficiency of Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plants: A Systematic Review*, *Environmental Health Insights*, vol. 17, 1 (2023), available at <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/11786302231195158>.

¹¹ DEP, *Domestic Wastewater Program*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

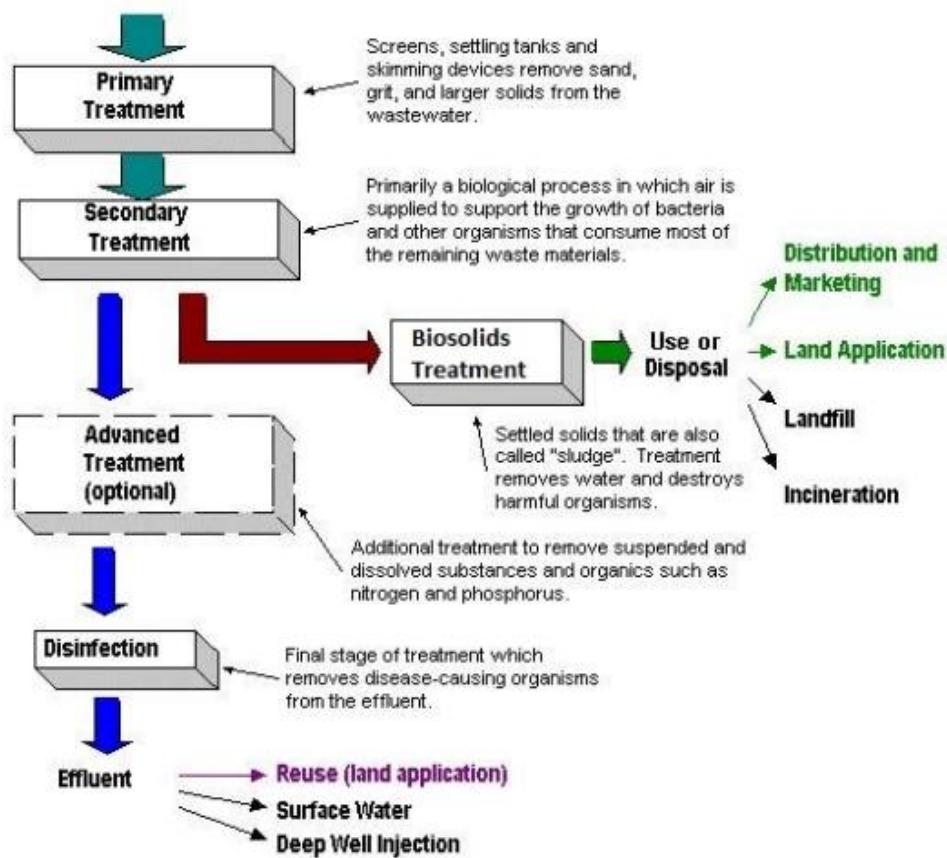
¹² DEP, *General Facts and Statistics about Wastewater in Florida*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/general-facts-and-statistics-about-wastewater-florida> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

¹³ Sections 403.086(1)(a) and (2), F.S.; Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-600.420.

¹⁴ CBOD5 is the quantity of oxygen utilized in the carbonaceous biochemical oxidation of organic matter present in water or wastewater, reported as a five-day value determined using approved methods. Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-600.200(8).

¹⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-600.420(3). DEP, *Domestic Wastewater Treatment Process*, available at <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/documents/domestic-wastewater-treatment-process> (showing flowchart of wastewater treatment process).

¹⁶ Section 403.086(4)(a), F.S. This statute defines the term “advanced waste treatment,” rather than “advanced wastewater treatment.” However, the term is used in the context of wastewater treatment and appears to refer to the treatment of wastewater.



AWT is required before discharging into certain impaired waterbodies, including, but not limited to, the Indian River Lagoon beginning July 1, 2025, and by January 1, 2033, waterbodies that are not attaining nutrient-related standards or that are subject to a nutrient basin management action plan (BMAP) or reasonable assurance plan.¹⁷ In addition, in 2024, the Legislature passed a law requiring that by July 1, 2034, wastewater treatment facilities providing reclaimed water for irrigation or land application in areas within a nutrient BMAP or a reasonable assurance plan must meet AWT standards for total nitrogen and total phosphorus if DEP determines that the use of reclaimed water is causing or contributing to nutrient impairment.¹⁸ For such determinations made by DEP after July 1, 2024, the facility has 10 years to meet AWT standards.¹⁹ DEP may also order AWT if deemed necessary.²⁰

Wastewater treatment facilities may be required to provide additional treatment to satisfy water quality standards for receiving surface and ground waters.²¹ Systems within Monroe County are subject to different treatment requirements.²²

¹⁷ Section 403.086(1)(c)1. and 2., F.S.

¹⁸ Chapter 2024-180, s. 13, Laws of Fla.; section 403.086(1)(c)3., F.S.

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ Section 403.086(1)(a), F.S.

²¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-600.430.

²² Section 403.086(11), F.S.

Wastewater treatment facilities must monitor the flow, the influent for CBOD5 and TSS, and the effluent for all effluent parameters as required by the permit.²³ The minimum schedule for sampling is based on the facility's permitted capacity. For example, for facilities with a permitted capacity of 5 million gallons per day (mgd) up to 15 mgd, sampling must be conducted according to the following parameters:²⁴

- Continuous testing for flow, pH, and chlorine residual;²⁵
- Weekly testing for e. coli or enterococci;
- Daily (seven days per week) testing for TSS, CBOD5, nutrients, chlorine residual, and total coliform.²⁶

Impaired Waters, Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and BMAPs

Under section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act, states must establish water quality standards for waters within their borders and develop a list of impaired waters that do not meet such water quality standards.²⁷ States must also develop a list of threatened waters that may not meet water quality standards in the following reporting cycle.²⁸

Due to limited funds and the wide variety of surface waters in Florida, DEP sorted those waters into 29 major watersheds, or basins, and further organized them into five basin groups for assessment purposes.²⁹ If DEP determines that any waters are impaired, the waterbody must be placed on the verified list of impaired waters, and a TMDL must be calculated.³⁰ A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards.³¹ A waterbody may be removed from the verified list at any time during the TMDL process if it attains water quality standards.³² If DEP determines that a waterbody is impaired but further study is needed to determine the causative pollutants or other factors contributing to impairment before the waterbody is placed on the verified list, the waterbody will be placed on a statewide comprehensive study list.³³

²³ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-600.660(1).

²⁴ *Id.* at Figure 1.

²⁵ Total chlorine residual measured for disinfection effectiveness. *Id.* at n. 2.

²⁶ Fecal coliform must be tested five days per week, but total coliform must be tested seven days per week. *Id.* at Figure 1.

²⁷ EPA, *Overview of Identifying and Restoring Impaired Waters under Section 303(d) of the CWA*, <https://www.epa.gov/tmdl/overview-identifying-and-restoring-impaired-waters-under-section-303d-cwa> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026); 40 C.F.R. 130.7. Following the development of the list of impaired waters, states must develop a total maximum daily load for every pollutant/waterbody combination on the list. DEP, *Watershed Evaluation and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL) Section*, <https://floridadep.gov/dear/water-quality-evaluation-tmdl/content/total-maximum-daily-loads-tmdl-program> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ DEP, *Assessment Lists*, <https://floridadep.gov/dear/watershed-assessment-section/content/assessment-lists> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

³⁰ *Id.*; DEP, *Verified List Waterbody Ids (WBIDs)*, <https://geodata.dep.state.fl.us/datasets/FDEP::verified-list-waterbody-ids-wbids/about> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026); section 403.067(4), F.S.

³¹ Section 403.067(6)(a), F.S. *See also* 33 U.S.C. § 1251, s. 303(d) (the Clean Water Act).

³² Section 403.067(5), F.S.

³³ Section 403.067(2), F.S.; ch. 62-303.150, F.A.C.

BMAPs are one of the primary mechanisms DEP uses to achieve TMDLs. BMAPs are plans that address the entire pollution load, including point and nonpoint discharges,³⁴ for a watershed. There are currently 34 adopted BMAPs in Florida.³⁵

DEP may establish a BMAP as part of the development and implementation of a TMDL for a specific waterbody. First, the BMAP equitably allocates pollutant reductions to individual basins, to all basins as a whole, or to each identified point source or category of nonpoint sources.³⁶ Then, the BMAP establishes the schedule for implementing projects and activities to meet the pollution reduction allocations.³⁷ Producers of nonpoint source pollution included in a BMAP must comply with the established pollutant reductions by implementing appropriate best management practices or conducting water quality monitoring.³⁸

Public Notification of Pollution Releases

Florida law requires public notification of certain pollution releases.³⁹ A reportable pollution release is any unauthorized release or discharge of a substance into the air, land, or waters of the state that must be reported to the Division of Emergency Management's State Watch Office under applicable rules, permits, orders, or variances.⁴⁰ If an owner or operator of an installation discovers such a release, they must notify DEP within 24 hours.⁴¹ If no notification is made, DEP may take enforcement action against all parties subject to the notification requirement.⁴² If the pollution release migrates beyond the facility's property, the owner or operator must provide an additional notice to DEP within 24 hours of the discovery of the migration.⁴³

DEP must publish all pollution notifications on its websites within 24 hours of receipt and maintain an electronic mailing list for local governments, health departments, news media, and other interested parties to receive announcements of any notices.⁴⁴ DEP must also provide an online form and email submission option for reporting pollution releases.⁴⁵ Providing notice of a pollution release does not constitute an admission of liability or harm.⁴⁶ However, failure to provide the required notification can result in civil penalties.⁴⁷

³⁴ "Point source" is defined as any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operation, landfill leachate collection system, vessel or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. Nonpoint sources of pollution are sources of pollution that are not point sources. Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-620.200(37).

³⁵ DEP, *Basin Management Action Plans (BMAPs)*, <https://floridadep.gov/dear/water-quality-restoration/content/basin-management-action-plans-bmaps> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

³⁶ *Id.*

³⁷ *Id.*

³⁸ Section 403.067(7)(b)2.g., F.S. For example, BMPs for agriculture include activities such as managing irrigation water to minimize losses, limiting the use of fertilizers, and waste management.

³⁹ Section 403.077, F.S.

⁴⁰ Section 403.077(1), F.S.

⁴¹ Section 403.077(2)(a), F.S.

⁴² Section 403.077(2)(b), F.S.

⁴³ Section 403.077(2)(d), F.S.

⁴⁴ Section 403.077(3)(a) and (b), F.S. See DEP, *Public Notice of Pollution*, <https://floridadep.gov/sec/sec/content/public-notice-pollution> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

⁴⁵ Section 403.077(3)(c), F.S.

⁴⁶ Section 403.077(4), F.S.

⁴⁷ Section 403.077(5), F.S.

Contaminants of Emerging Concern

Contaminants of emerging concern (CECs) are broadly defined as any synthetic or naturally occurring chemical that is not commonly monitored in the environment but has the potential to enter the environment and cause known or suspected adverse ecological and/or human health effects.⁴⁸ In some cases, release of CECs to the environment may have occurred for a long time but may not have been recognized until new detection methods were developed. In other cases, synthesis of new chemicals or changes in use and disposal of existing chemicals can create new sources of CECs.⁴⁹

While there are no regulatory limits for CECs, there may be a long-term potential risk to human health or the environment associated with CECs.⁵⁰ Additional studies may also bring new or changing health exposure information. The United States Environmental Protection Agency prioritizes CECs for research and data collection. As part of this data collection, all large and selected smaller public water systems across the U.S. are required to monitor for the targeted CECs.⁵¹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 includes the following legislative findings:

- The discharge of inadequately treated wastewater and aging sewage disposal facilities compromise the quality of the environment, including freshwater, brackish water, and nearshore and offshore salt waters, and threatens the quality of life and local economies in this state that depend on those resources.
- Requiring advanced wastewater treatment or better at all sewage disposal facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than one million gallons per day in this state is a necessary long-term investment that will fundamentally improve wastewater treatment.

The bill provides that, by July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, sewage disposal facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million gallons per day in this state must report to the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) all of the following:

- Year of construction for the facility and any maintenance or upgrades.
- Total permitted volume of water treated daily.
- Actual permitted volume of water treated daily, including the most recent one-year and five-year averages.
- Current level of treatment, including concentrations for each of the following:
 - Biochemical oxygen demand.
 - Suspended solids.
 - Total nitrogen.
 - Total phosphorus.

⁴⁸ National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, *Contaminants of Emerging Concern*, <https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/science-areas/pollution/modern-use-chemicals/> (last visited Jan. 19, 2026).

⁴⁹ *Id.*

⁵⁰ DEP, *Regulated Drinking Water Contaminants and Contaminants of Emerging Concern*, <https://floridadep.gov/comm/press-office/content/regulated-drinking-water-contaminants-and-contaminants-emerging-concern> (last visited Jan. 16, 2026).

⁵¹ *Id.*

- Perfluoroctanoic acid.
 - Perfluoroctanesulfonic acid.
 - Molybdenum.
 - Other contaminants of emerging concern as determined by DEP.
- Estimated total pollutant loading based on permitted volume and concentrations.
- Disposal methods and the volume discharged to any receiving waterbodies, if applicable, pursuant to s. 403.064(16), F.S.⁵²
- Total volume and concentration of any permitted and nonpermitted wastewater spills since 2010.
- Elevation of the facility and supporting infrastructure.
- Location within a floodplain, flood zone, or coastal high-hazard area and, if applicable, the corresponding zone number.

The bill provides that, in order to prioritize the upgrade of sewage disposal facilities and investments in wastewater infrastructure, by December 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, DEP, in consultation with the water management districts and sewage disposal facilities, must submit to the Governor and Legislature and publish on its website a report detailing all of the following information for sewage disposal facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million gallons per day:

- Year of construction for the facility and any maintenance or upgrades.
- Total permitted volume of water treated daily.
- Actual permitted volume of water treated daily, including the most recent one-year and five-year averages.
- Current level of treatment, including concentrations for each of the following:
 - Biochemical oxygen demand.
 - Suspended solids.
 - Total nitrogen.
 - Total phosphorus.
 - Perfluoroctanoic acid.
 - Perfluoroctanesulfonic acid.
 - Molybdenum.
 - Other contaminants of emerging concern as determined by DEP.
- Estimated total pollutant loading based on permitted volume and concentrations.
- Disposal methods and the volume discharged to any receiving waterbodies, if applicable, pursuant to s. 403.064(16), F.S.
- Impairment status of any receiving waterbodies within the watershed.
- Implementation status of total maximum daily loads and basin management action plans and assigned reductions for load allocations and wasteload allocations for pollutants of concern.
- Total volume and concentration of any permitted and nonpermitted wastewater spills since 2010.
- Elevation of the facility and supporting infrastructure.
- Location within a floodplain, flood zone, or coastal high-hazard area and, if applicable, the corresponding zone number

⁵² Section 403.064(16), F.S., requires domestic wastewater utilities to eliminate nonbeneficial surface water discharges by January 1, 2032.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Privately owned sewage disposal facilities may incur indeterminate costs to prepare the annual reports required by this bill.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Environmental Protection and publicly owned sewage disposal facilities may incur costs to prepare the reports required by this bill.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

None.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of 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.

By Senator Berman

26-00099C-26

20261468

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to advanced wastewater treatment; providing legislative findings; requiring certain sewage disposal facilities to submit specified reports to the Department of Environmental Protection beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter; requiring the department, in consultation with water management districts and sewage disposal facilities, to submit specified reports to the Governor and Legislature beginning on a specified date and annually thereafter, and to post such reports on its website; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that the discharge of inadequately treated wastewater and aging sewage disposal facilities compromise the quality of the environment, including freshwater, brackish water, and nearshore and offshore salt waters, and threatens the quality of life and local economies in this state that depend on those resources. The Legislature further finds that requiring advanced wastewater treatment or better at all sewage disposal facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million gallons per day in this state is a necessary long-term investment that will fundamentally improve wastewater treatment.

(2) By July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, sewage disposal facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million gallons per day in this state shall report to the

26-00099C-26

20261468

30 Department of Environmental Protection all of the following:

31 (a) Year of construction for the facility and any
32 maintenance or upgrades.

33 (b) Total permitted volume of water treated daily.

34 (c) Actual permitted volume of water treated daily,
35 including the most recent 1-year and 5-year averages.

36 (d) Current level of treatment, including concentrations
37 for each of the following:

38 1. Biochemical oxygen demand.

39 2. Suspended solids.

40 3. Total nitrogen.

41 4. Total phosphorus.

42 5. Perfluorooctanoic acid.

43 6. Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid.

44 7. Molybdenum.

45 8. Other contaminants of emerging concern as determined by
46 the department.

47 (e) Estimated total pollutant loading based on permitted
48 volume and concentrations.

49 (f) Disposal methods and the volume discharged to any
50 receiving waterbodies, if applicable, pursuant to s.
51 403.064(16), Florida Statutes.

52 (g) Total volume and concentration of any permitted and
53 nonpermitted wastewater spills since 2010.

54 (h) Elevation of the facility and supporting
55 infrastructure.

56 (i) Location within a floodplain, flood zone, or coastal
57 high-hazard area and, if applicable, the corresponding zone
58 number.

26-00099C-26

20261468

59 (3) In order to prioritize the upgrade of sewage disposal
60 facilities and investments in wastewater infrastructure, by
61 December 31, 2027, and annually thereafter, the department, in
62 consultation with the water management districts and sewage
63 disposal facilities, shall submit to the Governor, the President
64 of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a
65 report detailing all of the following for all sewage disposal
66 facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million
67 gallons per day in this state and post the annual report on its
68 website:

69 (a) Year of construction for the facility and any
70 maintenance or upgrades.

71 (b) Total permitted volume of water treated daily.

72 (c) Actual permitted volume of water treated daily,
73 including the most recent 1-year and 5-year averages.

74 (d) Current level of treatment, including concentrations
75 for each of the following:

76 1. Biochemical oxygen demand.

77 2. Suspended solids.

78 3. Total nitrogen.

79 4. Total phosphorus.

80 5. Perfluorooctanoic acid.

81 6. Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid.

82 7. Molybdenum.

83 8. Other contaminants of emerging concern as determined by
84 the department.

85 (e) Estimated total pollutant loading based on permitted
86 volume and concentrations.

87 (f) Disposal methods and the volume discharged to any

26-00099C-26

20261468

88 receiving waterbodies, if applicable, pursuant to s.
89 403.064(16), Florida Statutes.

90 (g) Impairment status of any receiving waterbodies within
91 the watershed.

92 (h) Implementation status of total maximum daily loads and
93 basin management action plans and assigned reductions for load
94 allocations and wasteload allocations for pollutants of concern.

95 (i) Total volume and concentration of any permitted and
96 nonpermitted wastewater spills since 2010.

97 (j) Elevation of the facility and supporting
98 infrastructure.

99 (k) Location within a floodplain, flood zone, or coastal
100 high-hazard area and, if applicable, the corresponding zone
101 number.

102 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

01/27/26

Meeting Date

Env. & Nat. Res

Committee

Name Alicia Keeter

Phone _____

Address 2970 Wellington Cir

Street

Tallahassee FL

City

32309

State

Zip

Email alicia@frwa.net

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

Bonn, Kim

From: Gras, Troy
Sent: Monday, January 26, 2026 7:16 AM
To: Cariota, Teri; Lopez, Victor
Cc: Rogers, Ellen; Bonn, Kim
Subject: Presentation of SB 1468

Good morning,

Senator Berman had a family emergency and will not be in town until late Tuesday. The Senator wanted to let Chair Ana Maria Rodriguez know that Senator Polsky will be presenting SB 1468: Advanced Wastewater Treatment on her behalf in the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

Best,

Troy Gras
Legislative Aide
Senate Democratic Minority Leader
Lori Berman
District 26



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Chair
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: January 20, 2026

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #1468**, relating to Advanced Wastewater Treatment, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in cursive ink that reads "Lori Berman".

Senator Lori Berman
Florida Senate, District 26

CC:
Senator Debbie Mayfield, Vice Chair
Ellen Rogers, Staff Director

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 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

BILL: CS/SB 1474

INTRODUCER: Environment and Natural Resources Committee and Senator Gaetz

SUBJECT: Biosolids Management

DATE: January 27, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Barriero	Rogers	EN	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.		AEG	
3.		RC	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1474 provides that the Department of Environmental Protection may not issue or renew a permit for a land application site that authorizes the disposal or land application of septage as Class B biosolids if there is a permitted wastewater treatment facility that accepts septage for higher levels of treatment which is:

- Less than 50 miles from a proposed Class B biosolids land application site;
- Owned or operated by the federal government or a federal agency, a state government body or agency, or a political subdivision of this state; and
- Not defunct, used for other purposes, or out of capacity.

II. Present Situation:

Biosolids

The proper treatment and disposal or reuse of domestic wastewater is an important part of protecting Florida's water resources. The majority of Florida's domestic wastewater is controlled and treated by centralized treatment facilities regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Florida has approximately 2,000 permitted domestic wastewater treatment facilities.¹

¹ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), *General facts and statistics about wastewater in Florida*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/general-facts-and-statistics-about-wastewater-florida> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

When domestic wastewater is treated, solid, semisolid, or liquid residue known as biosolids² accumulates in the wastewater treatment plant and must be removed periodically to keep the plant operating properly.³ Biosolids also include products and treated material from biosolids treatment facilities and septic management facilities regulated by DEP.⁴ The collected residue is high in organic content and contains moderate amounts of nutrients, which can make biosolids suitable for use as a soil amendment or fertilizer under appropriate conditions.⁵

Wastewater treatment facilities produce about 461,000 dry tons of biosolids each year.⁶ Biosolids can be disposed of in several ways including placement in a landfill, distribution and marketing as fertilizer, and land application on pasture or agricultural lands.⁷ Biosolids are subject to regulatory requirements established by DEP to protect public health and the environment.⁸

DEP regulates three classes of biosolids for beneficial use: Class AA, Class A, and Class B biosolids.⁹ The classes are categorized based on treatment and quality, with Class AA biosolids receiving the highest level of treatment, and Class B receiving the lowest.¹⁰ Consistent with federal standards, treatment of biosolids must reduce pathogens, the attractiveness of the biosolids for pests like insects and rodents, and the amount of toxic metals in the biosolids.¹¹

Class AA biosolids can be distributed and marketed like other commercial fertilizers.¹² Such biosolids may be sold or given away.¹³ Class AA biosolids compost products that are distributed and marketed outside of the Lake Okeechobee, St. Lucie River, and Caloosahatchee River watersheds do not have to be distributed and marketed as a fertilizer if the biosolids compost product is enrolled and certified under the U.S. Composting Council's (USCC) Seal of Testing Assurance program.¹⁴

Biosolids are regulated under Rule 62-640 of the Florida Administrative Code. The rules provide minimum requirements, including monitoring and reporting requirements, for the treatment, management, use, and disposal of biosolids. The rules are applicable to wastewater treatment

² Section 373.4595, F.S., defines biosolids as the solid, semisolid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic wastewater in a domestic wastewater treatment facility and include products and treated material from biosolids treatment facilities and septic management facilities. The term does not include the treated effluent or reclaimed water from a domestic wastewater treatment facility, solids removed from pump stations and lift stations, screenings and grit removed from the preliminary treatment components of domestic wastewater treatment facilities, or ash generated during the incineration of biosolids. *See also* Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200(6).

³ DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/domestic-wastewater-biosolids> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

⁴ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200(6).

⁵ DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*.

⁶ DEP, *Presentation to the Florida Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resource*, 6 (Dec. 9, 2025), available at <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/7981>.

⁷ *See id.*

⁸ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.

⁹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200.

¹⁰ *Id.*; DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*.

¹¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200; 40 C.F.R. part 503.

¹² DEP, *Domestic wastewater biosolids*; National Biosolids Data Project, *Florida biosolids*, <https://www.biosolidsdata.org/florida> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025); Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.850.

¹³ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.850(2).

¹⁴ *Id.*

facilities, applicators, and distributors¹⁵ and include permit requirements for both treatment facilities and biosolids application sites.¹⁶

Land Application of Biosolids

Land application of biosolids involves spreading biosolids on the soil surface or incorporating or injecting biosolids into the soil at a DEP-permitted site.¹⁷ This practice provides nutrients and organic matter to the soil on agricultural land, golf courses, forests, parks, mine reclamation sites, and other disturbed lands. Composted and treated biosolids are used by landscapers and nurseries and by homeowners for their lawns and home gardens.¹⁸ Biosolids must be treated to at least Class B standards to be land applied.¹⁹ Permits are required for the land application of biosolids unless they have been marketed and distributed as fertilizer.²⁰

Each permit application for a biosolids application site must include a site-specific nutrient management plan (NMP) that establishes the specific rates of application and procedures to apply biosolids to land.²¹ Biosolids may only be applied to land application sites that are permitted by DEP and have a valid NMP.²² Biosolids must be applied at rates established in accordance with the NMP and may be applied to a land application site only if all concentrations of minerals do not exceed ceiling and cumulative concentrations determined by rule.²³ According to the St. Johns Water Management District, application rates of biosolids are determined by crop nitrogen demand, which can often result in the overapplication of phosphorus to the soil and can increase the risk of nutrient runoff into nearby surface waters.²⁴

Once a facility or site is permitted, it is subject to monitoring, record-keeping, reporting, and notification requirements.²⁵ The requirements are site-specific and can be increased or reduced by DEP based on the quality or quantity of wastewater or biosolids treated; historical variations in biosolids characteristics; industrial wastewater or sludge contributions to the facility; the use, land application, or disposal of the biosolids; the water quality of surface and ground water and the hydrogeology of the area; wastewater or biosolids treatment processes; and the compliance history of the facility or application site.²⁶

The land application of Class A and Class B biosolids is also prohibited within priority focus areas in effect for Outstanding Florida Springs if the land application is not in accordance with a

¹⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.100.

¹⁶ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.300.

¹⁷ Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), *Land application of biosolids*, <https://www.epa.gov/biosolids/land-application-biosolids> (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.700(2).

²⁰ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.700(1) and 62-640.850.

²¹ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.500.

²² *Id.*

²³ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.700.

²⁴ V. R. Hoge et al., *Developing a biosolids database for watershed modeling efforts*, Environmental Scientist IV, St. Johns River Water Management District, abstract available at

http://archives.waterinstitute.ufl.edu/symposium2018/abstract_detail.asp?AssignmentID=1719 (last visited Jan. 19, 2025).

²⁵ Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.650.

²⁶ *Id.*

NMP that has been approved by DEP.²⁷ The NMP must establish the rate at which all biosolids, soil amendments, and nutrient sources at the land application site can be applied to the land for crop production while minimizing the amount of pollutants and nutrients discharged into groundwater and waters of the state.²⁸ In addition, DEP may not authorize the land application of domestic wastewater biosolids within the Lake Okeechobee, Caloosahatchee River, or St. Lucie River watersheds unless the applicant demonstrates that the biosolids will not contribute to nutrient loadings in the applicable watershed, with a limited exception for Class AA biosolids that are marketed and distributed as fertilizer.²⁹

Permittees applying Class A or Class B biosolids must ensure a minimum unsaturated soil depth of 2 feet between the depth of biosolids placement and the water table level at the time of application.³⁰ Permittees must also be enrolled in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services best management practices program or be within an agricultural operation enrolled in the program for the applicable commodity type.³¹

Historically, about two-thirds of all biosolids produced have been land applied.³² However, between 2018 and 2024, the number of biosolids land application sites decreased from 120 to 58.³³ These reductions are expected to continue in the future.³⁴ Other disposal methods, including distribution and marketing of Class AA biosolids products and landfilling, are increasing.³⁵ Florida Class AA and Class B biosolids are also marketed and distributed out of state.³⁶

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 403.0855, F.S., regarding biosolids management. The bill provides that the Department of Environmental Protection may not issue or renew a permit for a land application site which authorizes disposal or land application of septage, as defined by rule 62-640.200(43) of the Florida Administrative Code,³⁷ as Class B biosolids if there is a permitted wastewater treatment facility that accepts septage for higher levels of treatment which is:

- Less than 50 miles from a proposed Class B biosolids land application site;
- Owned or operated by the Federal Government or a federal agency, a state government body or agency, or a political subdivision of this state; and
- Not defunct, used for other purposes, or out of capacity.

²⁷ Section 373.811(4), F.S.

²⁸ *Id.*

²⁹ Section 373.4595(3)(b)16., (4)(b)5., and (4)(d)5., F.S.

³⁰ Section 403.0855(3)(a), F.S.

³¹ Section 403.0855(3)(b), F.S.

³² DEP, *Biosolids in Florida*, 5 (2019), available at <https://www.floridastormwater.org/assets/MemberServices/Conference/AC19/02%20-%20Frick%20Tom.pdf>.

³³ DEP, *Presentation to the Florida Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resource*, 5 (Dec. 9, 2025), available at <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/7981>.

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ *Id.* at 6.

³⁶ Email from DEP on file with Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

³⁷ This rule defines “septage” as a mixture of sludge, fatty materials, human feces, and wastewater removed during pumping of an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system. Excluded from this definition are the contents of portable toilets, holding tanks, and grease interceptors. Fla. Admin. Code R. 62-640.200(43).

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 403.0855 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

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

CS by Environment and Natural Resources on Jan. 27, 2026:

Clarified that the prohibition applies to the land application of septage as defined in rule 62-640.200(43) of the Florida Administrative Code.

B. Amendments:

None.

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



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/27/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (Gaetz) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment**

2

3 Delete lines 19 - 20

4 and insert:

5 land application site which authorizes disposal or land
6 application of septage, as defined in rule 62-640.200(43),
7 Florida Administrative Code, as Class B biosolids if there is a

By Senator Gaetz

1-01333A-26

20261474

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

14 Section 1. Present subsection (6) of section 403.0855,
15 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (7), and a new
16 subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

17 403.0855 Biosolids management.—

18 (6) The department may not issue or renew a permit for a
19 biosolids land application site which authorizes disposal or
20 land application of septage as Class B biosolids if there is a
21 permitted wastewater treatment facility that accepts septage for
22 higher levels of treatment which is:

23 (a) Less than 50 miles from a proposed Class B biosolids
24 land application site;

(c) Not defunct, used for other purposes, or out of capacity.

1-01333A-26

20261474

30

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

1/27/26

Meeting Date

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

Committee

Name JASON AVIREY

Bill Number or Topic
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Address 101 N Wilson St, Suite 301
Street

Phone 850-689-5030
Email JAVIREY@MYOKALOOSA.COM

CRESTVIEW

FL

32536

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

01/27/26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

Env & Nat Res.

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1474

Bill Number or Topic

Name

Alicia Keeter

Phone _____

Address

2970 Wellington Cir

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32309

City

State

Zip

Email

alicia@frwa.net

Speaking: For Against Information**OR**Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

01 27 2020

Meeting Date

Bio Solids Management

Committee

Name Andrew Kalel

Address 215 South Monroe Street #520

Street

Tallahassee

FL

City

State

Zip

Phone

813 240 7632

Email akalel@scyrap.us

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Hernando County Government

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (f1senate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Chair
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: January 20, 2026

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #1474**, relating to Biosolids Management, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A blue ink signature of Senator Don Gaetz.

Senator Don Gaetz
Florida Senate, District 1

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 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

BILL: SB 1682

INTRODUCER: Senator Trumbull

SUBJECT: Local Administration of Vessel Restrictions

DATE: January 26, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Carroll	Rogers	EN	Favorable
2.		AEG	
3.		RC	

I. Summary:

SB 1682 authorizes counties and municipalities to administer laws relating to vessels at risk of becoming derelict, long-term anchoring permits, and derelict vessels within their jurisdictions. Local governments that elect to administer these laws must adopt ordinances and coordinate with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

Local governments that adopt such ordinances may designate code enforcement officers to:

- Determine whether a vessel meets one or more at-risk conditions;
- Investigate, document, and cite long-term anchoring permit violations; and
- Determine whether a vessel is derelict.

The bill specifies that a code enforcement officer's determination or citation is not a criminal finding. Code enforcement officers may support a law enforcement agency, but they may not make criminal determinations or take any action reserved for law enforcement officers. For specified purposes, a code enforcement officer's determination or citation is equivalent to a law enforcement officer's determination or citation. Additionally, local governments must comply with state law and FWC rules before taking corrective action or issuing a citation.

Regarding at-risk or derelict vessels, local governments are not prohibited from coordinating with law enforcement agencies for criminal investigation or prosecution. Regarding long-term anchoring permits, administrative enforcement by a local government does not preclude parallel enforcement by law enforcement officers.

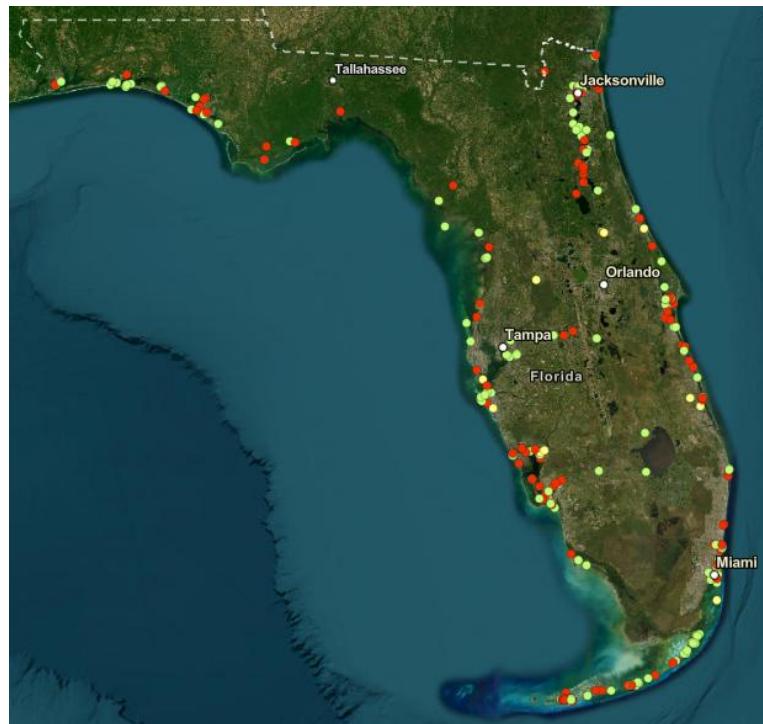
The bill authorizes FWC to adopt rules to implement the authorizations.

II. Present Situation:

Derelict Vessels

Derelict vessels can endanger marine life and habitats, threaten public safety, cause property damage, and create navigational hazards.¹ As of November 2025, there were 365 active cases for derelict vessels.²

A derelict vessel is a vessel that is in a wrecked,³ junked,⁴ or substantially dismantled⁵ condition upon any public waters of this state;⁶ at a port in the state without the consent of the agency that has jurisdiction of the port; or docked, grounded, or beached on the property of another without their consent.⁷ It is unlawful for a person, firm, or corporation to leave any derelict vessel on waters of this state.⁸



This map shows the locations of derelict vessels and denotes the status of each vessel. *Map courtesy of FWC.*

¹ Atkins and Vogel Group, *Florida's Long-Term Stored Vessel Study*, 61 (Sept. 2023), available at <https://myfwc.com/media/loneypyo/long-term-stored-vessel-study.pdf>.

² Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), 2025 Boating Legislation Implementation Presentation, 6 (Oct. 7, 2025), available at <https://www.flsenate.gov/Committees/DownloadMeetingDocument/7816>; The map on this page may be found at the following location: FWC, *Derelict Vessels*, <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/decfb6b7ca024ac98f6f900d86784d09?views=View-5> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

³ A vessel is wrecked if it is sunken or sinking; aground without the ability to extricate itself absent mechanical assistance; or remaining after a marine casualty, including, but not limited to, a boating accident, extreme weather, or a fire. Section 823.11(1)(b), F.S.

⁴ A vessel is junked if it has been substantially stripped of vessel components, if vessel components have substantially degraded or been destroyed, or if the vessel has been discarded by the owner or operator. Attaching an outboard motor to a vessel that is otherwise junked will not cause the vessel to no longer be junked if the motor is not an effective means of propulsion. Section 823.11(1)(b), F.S.

⁵ A vessel is substantially dismantled if at least two of the three following vessel systems or components are missing, compromised, incomplete, inoperable, or broken: the steering system, the propulsion system, or the exterior hull integrity. Attaching an outboard motor to a vessel that is otherwise substantially dismantled will not cause the vessel to no longer be substantially dismantled if the motor is not an effective means of propulsion. Section 823.11(1)(b), F.S.

⁶ “Waters of this state” are defined as any navigable waters of the United States within the territorial limits of this state, the marginal sea adjacent to this state, and the high seas when navigated as a part of a journey or ride to or from the shore of this state, and all the inland lakes, rivers, and canals under the jurisdiction of this state. Section 327.02(48), F.S.

⁷ Section 823.11(1)(b), F.S.

⁸ Section 823.11(2), F.S. The term “leave” means to allow a vessel to remain occupied or unoccupied on waters of this state for more than 24 hours.

An FWC officer or other law enforcement agency or officer⁹ is authorized to relocate, remove, and store a derelict vessel if it obstructs or might obstruct navigation or if it endangers property, persons, or the environment.¹⁰ Law enforcement officers who relocate, remove, and store a derelict vessel are protected from liability for damage to the vessel, unless the damage is the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.¹¹

When a derelict vessel is docked, grounded, or beached on private property without the property owner's consent, the property owner may remove the vessel at the vessel owner's expense 60 days after providing written notice to the vessel owner.¹²

It is a first degree misdemeanor to leave a derelict vessel on waters of the state and a court may order the imposition of a civil penalty in addition to any sentence imposed for the first offense.¹³ A conviction will not bar the assessment and collection of a civil penalty.¹⁴ If the owner or responsible party has been convicted of leaving a derelict vessel on waters of the state, they are prohibited from residing or dwelling on the vessel until it is permanently removed.¹⁵ They may reside or dwell on the vessel if it is returned to waters of the state when it is no longer derelict.¹⁶

Vessels at Risk of Becoming Derelict

To prevent neglected or deteriorating vessels from reaching a likely and foreseeable state of disrepair, a vessel that is at risk of becoming derelict may not be present on waters of this state.¹⁷

A vessel may be at risk of becoming derelict if any of the following conditions exist:

- The vessel is taking on or has taken on water without an effective means to dewater;
- Spaces on the vessel that are designed to be enclosed are incapable of being sealed off or remain open to the elements for extended periods of time;
- The vessel has broken loose or is in danger of breaking loose from its anchor;
- The vessel is listing due to water intrusion;
- The vessel does not have an effective means of propulsion and the owner or operator is unable to prove they have ordered the necessary parts for repair;¹⁸ or
- The vessel is tied to an unlawful or unpermitted structure or mooring.¹⁹

⁹ Law enforcement agencies or officers specified in s. 327.70, F.S., include FWC's Division of Law Enforcement and its officers, sheriffs and their deputies, municipal police officers, and any other law enforcement officer defined in section 943.10, F.S. As defined in section 943.10(1), F.S., a law enforcement officer is any person elected, appointed, or employed full time by any municipality or the state or any political subdivision thereof who is vested with the authority to bear arms and make arrests and whose primary responsibility is the prevention and detection of crime or the enforcement of the penal, criminal, traffic, or highway laws of the state.

¹⁰ Section 823.11(3), F.S.

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Section 823.11(5), F.S.

¹³ Section 823.11(6), F.S.

¹⁴ *Id.*

¹⁵ Section 823.11(7), F.S.

¹⁶ *Id.*

¹⁷ Section 327.4107(1), F.S.

¹⁸ If the owner or operator is present on the vessel, a law enforcement officer may require a test of the vessel's effective means of propulsion for safe navigation to be conducted immediately. If they are not present on the vessel, they must conduct the test in the presence of law enforcement and within 48 hours after receiving notice. Section 327.4107(2), F.S.

¹⁹ *Id.*

If a vessel does not have an effective means of propulsion, a vessel owner or operator may provide a receipt, proof of purchase, or other documentation showing that the parts necessary to repair the vessel have been ordered.²⁰

It is a noncriminal infraction to anchor or moor a vessel at risk of becoming derelict on waters of the state, which is punishable by a civil penalty that increases for subsequent violations.²¹ A first offense results in a \$100 fine, a second offense that occurs at least 30 days after the first results in a \$250 fine, and a third or subsequent offense that occurs at least 30 days after the previous offense results in a \$500 fine.²²

A law enforcement officer may relocate a vessel that is at risk of becoming derelict to a distance greater than 20 feet from mangroves or upland vegetation and is protected from liability for damages caused by relocating the vessel, unless the damage is the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.²³

A Vessel Declared a Public Nuisance

If a vessel is the subject of three or more violations issued because of the same condition of being at risk of becoming derelict within a 24-month period, the vessel may be declared a public nuisance.²⁴ Law enforcement officers may relocate or remove public nuisance vessels from waters of the state and are protected from liability for damage to the vessel, unless the damage is the result of gross negligence or willful misconduct.²⁵

Derelict and Public Nuisance Vessel Removal Procedure

If a law enforcement officer ascertains that a derelict vessel or a vessel declared a public nuisance is present on waters of the state, the officer must place a notice on the vessel stating that the vessel must be removed by the owner within 21 days.²⁶ The notice must inform the owner or interested parties that they have the right to a hearing to challenge the determination that the vessel is derelict or otherwise in violation of the law. It must also give notice that if the vessel is not removed by the owner, then the owner or responsible party will be liable for the costs of removal, destruction, and disposal.²⁷

In addition to posting the notice on the vessel, the law enforcement officer must also mail a copy of the notice to the owner, if the officer is able to determine the owner's name and address after reasonable efforts.²⁸ If the owner or any interested person has not removed the vessel or

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ Section 327.4107(3), F.S.; section 327.73(1)(aa), F.S.

²² Section 327.73(1)(aa), F.S.

²³ Section 327.4107(4), F.S.

²⁴ Section 327.73(1), F.S.

²⁵ *Id.* Gross negligence is defined as "conduct so reckless or wanting in care that it constitutes a conscious disregard or indifference to the safety of the property exposed to such conduct." Willful misconduct is defined as "conduct evidencing carelessness or negligence of such a degree or recurrence as to manifest culpability, wrongful intent, or evil design or to show an intentional and substantial disregard of the interests of the vessel owner." Section 823.11(1)(c) and (d), F.S.

²⁶ Section 705.103(2)(a)1.b. and 2., F.S.

²⁷ Section 705.103(2)(a)2., F.S.

²⁸ *Id.*

requested a hearing within 21 days of the notice being posted and mailed, the law enforcement agency or its designee may:

- Remove, destroy, and dispose of the vessel or authorize another governmental entity or its designee to do so; or
- Authorize the vessel's use as an artificial reef if all necessary authorizations are received.²⁹

The owner or responsible party who does not remove the derelict or public nuisance vessel from waters of the state following the receipt of notice will be liable for all costs of removal, storage, destruction, and disposal of the vessel, less any salvage value.³⁰ The owner or responsible party who refuses to pay these costs will not be issued a certificate of registration for the derelict or public nuisance vessel or any other vessel.³¹

Derelict Vessel Removal Programs

State law authorizes FWC to establish a derelict vessel prevention program to address vessels at risk of becoming derelict.³² The program is not required to, but may include:

- Removing, relocating, and destroying vessels declared a public nuisance, derelict or at risk of becoming derelict, or lost or abandoned;
- Creating a vessel turn-in program that allows the owner of a vessel at risk of becoming derelict to turn over their vessel and title to FWC to be destroyed without penalty;
- Removing and destroying abandoned vessels;
- Purchasing anchor lines, anchors, and other equipment to secure vessels at risk of becoming derelict; and
- Creating or acquiring moorings designated for securing vessels at risk of becoming derelict.³³

Pursuant to this authorization, FWC established the Florida Vessel Turn-In Program, which allows vessel owners who have received a written citation or warning that their vessel is at risk to have the vessel removed, destroyed, and disposed of at no cost to the owner.³⁴

Removal of vessels eligible for the Vessel Turn-In Program and local government efforts to remove derelict and public nuisance vessels are funded by grants from FWC's Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program.³⁵

The Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program reimburses local governments and other political subdivisions of the state for removing, storing, destroying, and disposing of derelict and at-risk vessels.³⁶ The grant program allows FWC to fully reimburse local governments for any eligible vessels in the grant contract.³⁷

²⁹ *Id.*

³⁰ Section 705.103(4), F.S.

³¹ *Id.*

³² Section 327.4107(6), F.S.

³³ *Id.*

³⁴ FWC, *Florida Vessel Turn-In Program*, <https://myfwc.com/boating/waterway/vtip/> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

³⁵ *Id.*; FWC, *Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program*, <https://myfwc.com/boating/grants-programs/derelict-vessel/> (last visited Feb. 20, 2025).

³⁶ FWC, *Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program*; FWC, *FWC Derelict Vessel and At-Risk/Public Nuisance Vessel Removal Grant Program Guidelines*, 2 (Sept. 2024), available at <https://myfwc.com/media/nrhfxsj/dv-grant-guidelines.pdf>.

³⁷ *Id.*

Long-Term Anchoring Permits

Vessel owners or operators must obtain a long-term, no-cost anchoring permit when engaging in long-term anchoring.³⁸ Long-term anchoring is anchoring a vessel within one linear nautical mile of a documented anchorage point for 14 days or more within a 30-day period.³⁹

FWC-issued permits must include the vessel owner or operator's personal information, as well as information on the vessel itself.⁴⁰ The permit also must include where the vessel will be anchored and notice to the owner or operator that the permit may be revoked if the vessel is derelict, at risk of becoming derelict, or in violation of marine sanitation provisions.⁴¹

A person may obtain more than one permit; each permit is specific to one vessel.⁴² A permit must be renewed or updated for each long-term anchoring location and will expire one year from its date of issuance. The bill provides that a permit may be revoked if the permitted vessel is derelict, at risk of becoming derelict, or is operated or occupied on waters of the state in violation of marine sanitation laws.⁴³

A long-term anchoring permit is not required if a vessel is docked at a public or private dock or moored to a permitted mooring buoy.⁴⁴ The following vessels are exempt from long-term permitting requirements:

- Vessels owned or operated by a governmental entity for law enforcement, firefighting, military, or rescue purposes;
- Construction or dredging vessels on an active job site;
- Vessels actively engaged in commercial fishing; and
- Vessels engaged in recreational fishing if the persons onboard are actively tending hook-and-line fishing gear or nets.⁴⁵

A person who engages in long-term anchoring without a valid permit commits a noncriminal infraction.⁴⁶ The penalty for a first offense is a maximum of \$100.⁴⁷ A second offense is a maximum of \$250 and a third or subsequent offense is a maximum of \$500. If a vessel is the subject of three or more violations within a 24-month period that result in dispositions other than acquittal or dismissal, it must be declared a public nuisance.⁴⁸

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 327.4107, F.S., to authorize counties and municipalities to identify, provide notice, take corrective action, relocate, remove, store, destroy, or dispose of vessels at risk of

³⁸ Section 327.4111, F.S.

³⁹ Section 327.4111(1), F.S.

⁴⁰ Section 327.4111(2), F.S.

⁴¹ *Id.*

⁴² Section 327.4111(3), F.S.

⁴³ *Id.* Marine sanitation laws are found in section 327.53, F.S.

⁴⁴ Section 327.4111(6), F.S.

⁴⁵ Section 327.4111(5), F.S.

⁴⁶ Section 327.4111(4), F.S.

⁴⁷ Section 327.73(1)(gg), F.S.

⁴⁸ *Id.*

becoming derelict within their jurisdictions, pursuant to the amended section, by adopting an ordinance to that effect.

A local government that elects to administer these laws must do so in coordination with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC).

The bill authorizes a local government that adopts such an ordinance to designate a code enforcement officer⁴⁹ to determine whether a vessel meets one or more at-risk conditions.⁵⁰

Regarding the code enforcement officer's determination:

- It is only for administrative abatement purposes;
- It may only be used to initiate notice, corrective action, relocation, storage, disposal, or cost-recovery actions pursuant to laws on vessels at risk of becoming derelict and in accordance with FWC rules; and
- It is not a criminal finding and may not serve as a basis for prosecution under this section or any other criminal violation relating to vessel conditions or derelict vessels.

A local government that adopts an ordinance on vessels at risk of becoming derelict must comply with all notice, documentation, environmental compliance, storage, and recordkeeping requirements established by FWC and state law before taking corrective action on a vessel. FWC may provide technical assistance and guidance to the local government.

The authorization does not prohibit a county or municipality from coordinating with law enforcement agencies for criminal investigation or prosecution for violations of vessel safety or public nuisance laws.⁵¹

Code enforcement officers may support a law enforcement agency by providing documentation, photographs, observations, statements, and other non-law enforcement support, but they may not make criminal determinations or take any action reserved for law enforcement officers in vessel safety laws.⁵²

The bill adds that, for any FWC-administered program relating to the prevention, mitigation, removal, relocation, storage, or destruction of at-risk vessels, including the derelict vessel prevention program, a code enforcement officer's designation of a vessel as at risk of becoming derelict must be treated as equivalent to the same designation by a law enforcement officer, provided the county or municipality submits all documentation, photographic evidence, and verification materials required by rule.

The bill authorizes FWC to adopt rules to implement this authorization. The rules may include procedures for:

- Verifying administrative designations,

⁴⁹ A code enforcement officer is defined as “any designated employee or agent of a county or municipality whose duty it is to enforce codes and ordinances enacted by the county or municipality.” Section 162.21(1), F.S.

⁵⁰ See pages 3 and 4 of this analysis.

⁵¹ Specifically, chapters 327 and 823, F.S.

⁵² Specifically, chapter 327, F.S.

- Ensuring statewide consistency in the application of at-risk criteria,
- Maintaining records of corrective actions or removals,
- Providing technical assistance to local governments, and
- Auditing reimbursement or cost-recovery requests.

Section 2 amends s. 327.4111, F.S., to authorize counties and municipalities to enforce long-term anchoring permits within their jurisdictions by adopting an ordinance to that effect.

A local government that elects to enforce long-term anchoring permits must do so in coordination with FWC.

The bill authorizes a local government that adopts such an ordinance to designate a code enforcement officer to investigate, document, and cite long-term anchoring permit violations. A citation for permit violations by a code enforcement officer is a noncriminal infraction that:

- May be issued through local code enforcement procedures or the uniform boating citation system, as determined by FWC rule or local ordinance;
- Does not constitute a criminal finding; and
- May only be used for the imposition of civil penalties, corrective actions, or cost recovery authorized under vessel safety laws.

A local government that adopts such an ordinance must comply with all permit verification, documentation, notice, and recordkeeping requirements established by FWC before a code enforcement officer may issue a citation or take other enforcement action. FWC may provide technical assistance, training, and guidance to the local government.

The bill provides that administrative enforcement by a local government does not preclude parallel enforcement by law enforcement officers. Additionally, a local government may coordinate with law enforcement agencies for criminal investigation or prosecution for violations of vessel safety or public nuisance laws.

Code enforcement officers may provide documentation, photographs, observations, statements, and other non-law enforcement support to a law enforcement agency, but may not make a criminal determination or take any action reserved for law enforcement officers by vessel safety laws.

The bill further provides that, for any FWC-administered program relating to anchoring regulation, vessel compliance, or public nuisance abatement, a noncriminal infraction citation issued by a code enforcement officer must be treated as equivalent to a uniform boating citation issued by a law enforcement officer, provided the local government submits all documentation, photographic evidence, location data, permit status verification, and other materials required by FWC rule.

The bill authorizes FWC to adopt rules to implement this authorization. The rules may include procedures for:

- Local designation of code enforcement officers,
- Verifying compliance with permit requirements,

- Ensuring statewide consistency in enforcement criteria,
- Coordinating with the uniform boating citation system,
- Maintaining records of citations and resolutions,
- Providing technical assistance or training to local governments, and
- Auditing any reimbursement or cost-sharing requests.

Section 3 amends s. 823.11, F.S., to authorize counties and municipalities to identify, remove, store, destroy, or dispose of derelict vessels within their jurisdictions by adopting an ordinance to that effect.

A local government that elects to administer these laws must do so in coordination with FWC.

The bill authorizes a local government that adopts such an ordinance to designate a code enforcement officer to determine whether a vessel is a derelict vessel. The code enforcement officer's determination is:

- For administrative abatement purposes only and may only be used to initiate notice, removal, disposal, and cost-recovery actions pursuant to the amended section and in accordance with FWC rules; and
- Not a criminal finding and may not serve as a basis for prosecution under the amended section.

A local government that adopts an ordinance must comply with all notice, documentation, storage, and environmental compliance requirements established by FWC and the amended section before removing or disposing of a vessel. FWC may provide technical assistance and guidance to the local government.

The bill provides that the authorization does not prohibit a local government from coordinating with law enforcement agencies for criminal investigation or prosecution of violations of vessel safety and public nuisance laws. A code enforcement officer may provide documentation, photographs, observations, statements, and other non-law enforcement support to a law enforcement agency, but may not make criminal determinations or take any action reserved for law enforcement officers.

The bill provides that for purposes of the Derelict Vessel Removal Grant Program administered by FWC, a designation of a vessel as derelict by a code enforcement officer must be treated as equivalent to the same designation by a law enforcement officer, provided the local government submits all documentation, photographic evidence, location data, permit status verification, and other materials required by FWC rule.

The bill authorizes FWC to adopt rules to implement this authorization, including procedures for:

- Verifying administrative designations,
- Maintaining records of removals,
- Providing technical assistance to local governments, and
- Auditing reimbursement requests.

The bill makes conforming changes.

Section 4 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

This bill may have a positive fiscal impact because it may hasten the removal process for at risk and derelict vessels. As the condition of a vessel worsens, it becomes more expensive to remove, so removing vessels as early as possible reduces the associated cost.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends sections 327.4107, 327.4111, and 823.11 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of 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.

By Senator Trumbull

2-01499-26

20261682

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to local administration of vessel restrictions; amending ss. 327.4107, 327.4111, and 823.11, F.S.; authorizing counties and municipalities to adopt ordinances to administer, in coordination with the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, certain provisions relating to vessels at risk of becoming derelict, the enforcement of long-term anchoring permit requirements, and derelict and migrant vessels, respectively; authorizing counties and municipalities to designate code enforcement officers for specified purposes; providing that certain determinations made by the code enforcement officers are for administrative purposes only and are not criminal findings; requiring counties and municipalities to comply with specified provisions; authorizing the commission to provide technical assistance and guidance; providing construction; requiring certain designations and actions by code enforcement officers to be treated as equivalent to specified law enforcement actions under certain circumstances; authorizing the commission to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Present subsections (5) and (6) of section 327.4107, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6) and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that

2-01499-26

20261682

30 section, to read:

31 327.4107 Vessels at risk of becoming derelict on waters of
this state.—

33 (5) A county or municipality may elect to administer, in
34 coordination with the commission, this section relating to the
35 identification, notice, corrective action, relocation, removal,
36 storage, destruction, or disposal of vessels at risk of becoming
37 derelict within its jurisdiction by adopting an ordinance to
38 that effect.

39 (a) A county or municipality that adopts an ordinance under
40 this subsection:

41 1. May designate a code enforcement officer as defined in
42 s. 162.21 to determine whether a vessel meets one or more of the
43 at-risk conditions listed in subsection (2). The code
44 enforcement officer's determination is for administrative
45 abatement purposes only and may be used solely to initiate
46 notice, corrective action, relocation, storage, disposal, or
47 cost-recovery actions pursuant to this section and in accordance
48 with rules adopted by the commission. The code enforcement
49 officer's determination is not a criminal finding and may not
50 serve as a basis for prosecution under this section or any other
51 criminal violation relating to vessel conditions or derelict
52 vessels.

53 2. Shall comply with all notice, documentation,
54 environmental compliance, storage, and recordkeeping
55 requirements established by the commission and this section
56 before taking corrective action on a vessel. The commission may
57 provide technical assistance and guidance to the county or
58 municipality.

2-01499-26

20261682

59 (b) This subsection may not be construed to prohibit a
60 county or municipality from coordinating with law enforcement
61 agencies for purposes of criminal investigation or prosecution
62 relating to violations of this chapter or chapter 823. A code
63 enforcement officer acting pursuant to this subsection may
64 provide documentation, photographs, observations, statements,
65 and other non-law enforcement support to a law enforcement
66 agency, but may not make a criminal determination or take any
67 action reserved for law enforcement officers under this chapter.

68 (c) For purposes of any commission-administered program
69 relating to the prevention, mitigation, removal, relocation,
70 storage, or destruction of vessels at risk of becoming derelict,
71 including the derelict vessel prevention program authorized
72 under subsection (7), a designation of a vessel as at risk of
73 becoming derelict by a county or municipal code enforcement
74 officer pursuant to this subsection must be treated, if the
75 county or municipality submits all documentation, photographic
76 evidence, and verification materials required by commission
77 rule, as equivalent to such a designation by a law enforcement
78 officer.

79 (d) The commission may adopt rules to implement this
80 subsection, including procedures for verifying administrative
81 designations, ensuring statewide consistency in the application
82 of at-risk criteria, maintaining records of corrective actions
83 or removals, providing technical assistance to local
84 governments, and auditing reimbursement or cost-recovery
85 requests.

86 Section 2. Present subsections (5) through (9) of section
87 327.4111, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)

2-01499-26

20261682

88 through (10), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to
89 that section, to read:

90 327.4111 Long-term anchoring.—

91 (5) A county or municipality may elect to administer, in
92 coordination with the commission, this section relating to the
93 enforcement of long-term anchoring permit requirements within
94 its jurisdiction by adopting an ordinance to that effect.

95 (a) A county or municipality that adopts an ordinance under
96 this subsection:

97 1. May designate a code enforcement officer as defined in
98 s. 162.21 to investigate, document, and cite violations of
99 subsection (4). A citation from a code enforcement officer is a
100 noncriminal infraction punishable as provided in s. 327.73 and
101 may be issued through local code enforcement procedures or the
102 uniform boating citation system under s. 327.74, as determined
103 by commission rule or local ordinance. A citation issued
104 pursuant to this subparagraph does not constitute a criminal
105 finding and may be used solely for the imposition of civil
106 penalties, corrective actions, or cost recovery authorized under
107 this chapter.

108 2. Shall comply with all permit verification,
109 documentation, notice, and recordkeeping requirements
110 established by the commission before a code enforcement officer
111 may issue a citation or take other enforcement action. The
112 commission may provide technical assistance, training, and
113 guidance to the county or municipality.

114 (b) Administrative enforcement under this subsection does
115 not preclude parallel enforcement by law enforcement officers
116 under s. 327.70. This subsection may not be construed to

2-01499-26

20261682

117 prohibit a county or municipality from coordinating with law
118 enforcement agencies for purposes of criminal investigation or
119 prosecution relating to violations of this chapter or chapter
120 823. A code enforcement officer acting pursuant to this
121 subsection may provide documentation, photographs, observations,
122 statements, and other non-law enforcement support to a law
123 enforcement agency, but may not make a criminal determination or
124 take any action reserved for law enforcement officers under this
125 chapter.

126 (c) For purposes of any commission-administered program
127 relating to anchoring regulation, vessel compliance, or public
128 nuisance abatement, a noncriminal infraction citation for a
129 violation of subsection (4) issued by a county or municipal code
130 enforcement officer pursuant to this subsection must be treated,
131 if the county or municipality submits all documentation,
132 photographic evidence, location data, permit status
133 verification, and other materials required by commission rule,
134 as equivalent to a uniform boating citation issued by a law
135 enforcement officer.

136 (d) The commission may adopt rules to implement this
137 subsection, including procedures for local designation of code
138 enforcement officers, verifying compliance with permit
139 requirements, ensuring statewide consistency in enforcement
140 criteria, coordinating with the uniform boating citation system,
141 maintaining records of citations and resolutions, providing
142 technical assistance or training to counties or municipalities,
143 and auditing any reimbursement or cost-sharing requests.

144 Section 3. Present subsections (6) and (7) of section
145 823.11, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (7)

2-01499-26

20261682

146 and (8), respectively, a new subsection (6) is added to that
147 section, and paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of that section is
148 amended, to read:

149 823.11 Derelict and migrant vessels; relocation or removal;
150 penalty.—

151 (4)

152 (c) The commission may establish a program to provide
153 grants to local governments for the removal, storage,
154 destruction, and disposal of derelict vessels or migrant vessels
155 from the waters of this state. This grant funding may also be
156 used for the removal, storage, destruction, and disposal of
157 vessels declared a public nuisance pursuant to s. 327.73(1)(aa)
158 or the derelict vessel prevention program established pursuant
159 to s. 327.4107(8) ~~s. 327.4107(7)~~. The program must be funded
160 from the Marine Resources Conservation Trust Fund or the Florida
161 Coastal Protection Trust Fund. Notwithstanding s. 216.181(11),
162 funds available for these grants may only be authorized by
163 appropriations acts of the Legislature. In a given fiscal year,
164 if all funds appropriated pursuant to this paragraph are not
165 requested by and granted to local governments for the removal,
166 storage, destruction, and disposal of derelict vessels, migrant
167 vessels, or vessels declared a public nuisance pursuant to s.
168 327.73(1)(aa) by the end of the third quarter, the Fish and
169 Wildlife Conservation Commission may use the remainder of the
170 funds to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of, or to pay
171 private contractors to remove, store, destroy, and dispose of,
172 derelict vessels, migrant vessels, or vessels declared a public
173 nuisance pursuant to s. 327.73(1)(aa). The commission shall
174 adopt by rule procedures for local governments to submit a grant

2-01499-26

20261682

175 application and criteria for allocating available funds. Such
176 criteria must include, at a minimum, all of the following:

177 1. The number of derelict vessels and migrant vessels
178 within the jurisdiction of the applicant.

179 2. The threat posed by such vessels to public health or
180 safety, the environment, navigation, or the aesthetic condition
181 of the general vicinity.

182 3. The degree of commitment of the local government to
183 maintain waters free of abandoned, derelict, and migrant vessels
184 and to seek legal action against those who abandon vessels in
185 the waters of this state as defined in s. 327.02.

186 (6) A county or municipality may elect to administer, in
187 coordination with the commission, this section relating to the
188 identification, removal, storage, destruction, or disposal of
189 derelict vessels within its jurisdiction by adopting an
190 ordinance to that effect.

191 (a) A county or municipality that adopts an ordinance under
192 this subsection:

193 1. May designate a code enforcement officer as defined in
194 s. 162.21 to determine whether a vessel meets the definition of
195 a derelict vessel as provided in this section for administrative
196 abatement purposes only. The code enforcement officer's
197 determination is not a criminal finding and may not serve as the
198 basis for prosecution under this section. Such determinations
199 may be used solely to initiate notice, removal, disposal, and
200 cost-recovery actions pursuant to this section and in accordance
201 with rules adopted by the commission.

202 2. Shall comply with all notice, documentation, storage,
203 and environmental compliance requirements established by the

2-01499-26

20261682

204 commission and this section before removing or disposing of a
205 vessel. The commission may provide technical assistance and
206 guidance to the county or municipality.

207 (b) This subsection may not be construed to prohibit a
208 county or municipality from coordinating with law enforcement
209 agencies for purposes of criminal investigation or prosecution
210 relating to violations of chapter 327 or this chapter. A code
211 enforcement officer acting pursuant to this subsection may
212 provide documentation, photographs, observations, statements,
213 and other non-law enforcement support to a law enforcement
214 agency but may not make a criminal determination or take any
215 action reserved for law enforcement officers under this chapter.

216 (c) For purposes of the Derelict Vessel Removal Grant
217 Program administered by the commission, a designation of a
218 vessel as derelict by a county or municipal code enforcement
219 officer under this subsection must be treated, if the county or
220 municipality submits the required documentation, photographic
221 evidence, and verification materials in accordance with
222 commission rules, as equivalent to such a designation by a law
223 enforcement officer.

224 (d) The commission may adopt rules to implement this
225 subsection, including procedures for verifying administrative
226 designations, maintaining records of removals, providing
227 technical assistance to local governments, and auditing
228 reimbursement requests.

229 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

1/27/26

Meeting Date

Environment

Committee

Name Peter Abello

Address 100 S Monroe St
Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

<p>PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am a registered lobbyist, representing: FL Association of Catties</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:</p>		
---	--	--

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, *Chair*
Appropriations
Community Affairs
Health Policy
Judiciary
Rules

SENATOR JAY TRUMBULL

2nd District

January 19, 2026

Re: SB 1682

Dear Chair Rodriguez,

I respectfully request Senate Bill 1682, Local Administration of Vessel Restrictions, be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (850) 487-5002.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Trumbull".

Senator Jay Trumbull
District 2

REPLY TO:

- 840 West 11th Street, Panama City, Florida 32401 (850) 747-5454
- 415 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5002

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

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 Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

BILL: CS/SB 1628

INTRODUCER: Environment and Natural Resources Committee and Senator Avila

SUBJECT: Net-zero Policies by Governmental Entities

DATE: January 27, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Barriero	Rogers	EN	Fav/CS
2.		FT	
3.		AP	

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1628 provides a legislative finding that net-zero policies, carbon taxes or assessments, and carbon emissions trading programs are detrimental to the state's energy security and economic interests. The bill prohibits governmental entities from adopting net-zero policies, including through comprehensive plans, land development regulations, transportation plans, or any other government policy or procedure. The bill defines "net-zero policy" to include any target, threshold, action, initiative, framework, requirement, or policy related to reducing the use of carbon-intensive products or activities, including policies related to achieving goals under the Paris Agreement. The bill defines "carbon-intensive products" and "carbon-intensive activities" to include products and activities related to transportation, agricultural, energy production and transmission, hunting, mining, and manufacturing of products to support the continued livelihood of mankind.

The bill prohibits governmental entities from expending funds to implement, support, or advance net-zero policies, including through procurement preferences, vehicle purchasing decisions based solely on the fuel source, or payment of dues to organizations that support net-zero policies. The bill further prohibits the imposition of taxes, fees, penalties, charges, offsets, or assessments to advance a net-zero policy. Governmental entities are also prohibited from implementing, administering, or enforcing cap-and-trade or carbon emissions trading programs, including establishing emissions caps, allocating or trading emissions allowances or credits, or requiring participation in such programs.

The bill provides that, beginning January 1, 2027, the Department of Environmental Protection must annually require all governmental entities to submit a sworn affidavit attesting to compliance with these requirements. The bill applies to proposed actions by governmental entities on or after July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Greenhouse gases trap heat in the atmosphere and warm the surface of the earth. There is broad scientific consensus that if the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere continues, the risk of more severe climate impacts will increase,¹ including biodiversity loss, threats to human health, reduced food and water security, and more frequent and severe extreme weather events.² Every additional degree of warming will intensify multiple and concurrent hazards.³ Near-term actions that limit warming to close to 1.5 degrees Celsius would be expected to substantially reduce projected losses and damages to human systems and ecosystems related to climate change.⁴

Mechanisms used to achieve emissions reductions include net-zero policies, carbon taxes, carbon emissions trading programs, and other green initiatives.

Net-Zero

“Net-zero” refers to a scenario where human-caused greenhouse gas emissions from sources such as fossil fuel combustion and deforestation are offset by carbon dioxide (CO₂) removal from the atmosphere.⁵

When the amount of CO₂ emitted is equal to the amount of CO₂ removed from the atmosphere, there is no net increase of CO₂ in the atmosphere.⁶ This balance is referred to as net-zero CO₂. However, CO₂ is not the only greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Human activities also emit other greenhouse gases, including methane, nitrous oxide, and hydrofluorocarbons, all of which contribute to warming. To compare the climate impacts of different greenhouse gases, their warming effects are commonly expressed relative to CO₂ using a metric known as “CO₂ equivalent.”⁷

Net-zero greenhouse gas emissions means the combined net emissions of all greenhouse gases, expressed in CO₂ equivalents, equal zero.⁸ However, because there are currently no

¹ U.S. Congressional Research Service, *Climate Change: What Are Net-Zero Emissions?*, 1 (2024), available at <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/JF12753>.

² See Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), *Synthesis Report of the IPCC Sixth Assessment Report (AR6): Summary for Policymakers*, 4-18 (2023), available at https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/syr/downloads/report/IPCC_AR6_SYR_SPM.pdf. See generally Levent Kutlu, *Greenhouse Gas Emission Efficiencies of World Countries*, 1 (2020), available at <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7728308/pdf/ijerph-17-08771.pdf>.

³ IPCC, *AR6 Summary for Policymakers* at 12.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ U.S. Congressional Research Service, *Climate Change: What Are Net-Zero Emissions?* at 1.

⁶ *Id.*

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

commercially available methods to remove non-CO₂ greenhouse gases from the atmosphere, achieving net-zero greenhouse gases emissions requires additional removal of CO₂ to counterbalance emissions of other greenhouse gases.⁹ Net-zero greenhouse gas emissions is therefore achieved when total greenhouse gas emissions, measured in CO₂ equivalents, are offset by CO₂ removal from the atmosphere. Methods of CO₂ removal include natural absorption and storage in forests and other ecosystems as well as technological removal and storage.¹⁰

An increasing number of countries, cities, businesses, and institutions are pledging to achieve net-zero emissions.¹¹ These net-zero initiatives include objectives such as transitioning to electric fleet vehicles, encouraging utilization of electric bikes and scooters, increasing greenspaces, installing solar panels on public buildings or parking structures, and requiring energy efficient standards for buildings.¹²

Carbon Taxes and Carbon Emissions Trading Programs

Carbon pricing is a fee on each unit of CO₂ or other greenhouse gas emissions released into the atmosphere. There are two primary methods of pricing carbon: carbon taxes and carbon emissions programs like cap-and-trade programs.¹³ A carbon tax directly sets a price per unit of emissions, requiring companies to pay a fee based on the amount of greenhouse gases they emit.¹⁴ The price is usually expressed as a monetary unit per ton of CO₂ equivalent.¹⁵

In a cap-and-trade system, a government entity or other authority sets an emissions cap and issues a fixed quantity of emission allowances.¹⁶ Covered entities must hold sufficient allowances to account for the greenhouse emissions they produce. These entities can buy and sell allowances from each other based on their need. This supply and demand dynamic establishes a market price for carbon.¹⁷ Cap-and-trade programs have been implemented in several U.S.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ United Nations (UN), *Net Zero*, <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

¹² See, e.g., City of Miami, *Miami Forever Carbon Neutral: Executive Summary*, 5-6, available at <https://www.miami.gov/files/d4782104-3340-460c-a086-6a466c00a3a1/Miami-Forever-Carbon-Neutral-Executive-Summary.pdf>;

City of Fort Lauderdale, *Net Zero Plan*, 8-21 (2025), available at <https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/government/departments-i-z/parks-recreation/sustainability/sustainability-climate-resilience/net-zero>; City of Miramar, *Race to Zero*, <https://www.miramarfl.gov/Departments/Building-Planning-Zoning/Sustainable-Living/Race-to-Zero> (last visited Jan. 22, 2026); City of Boca Raton, *Race to Zero*, <https://www.myboca.us/2192/Race-to-Zero> (last visited Jan. 22, 2026); Broward County, *Broward County Net-Zero Plan*, <https://www.broward.org/Climate/Pages/netzeroplan.aspx> (last visited Jan. 22, 2026).

¹³ Columbia University, School of International and Public Affairs, *What You Need to Know About a Federal Carbon Tax in the United States* (2019), <https://www.energypolicy.columbia.edu/publications/what-you-need-to-know-about-a-federal-carbon-tax-in-the-united-states/>.

¹⁴ See World Research Institute, *Carbon Tax vs. Cap-and-Trade: What's a Better Policy to Cut Emissions*, <https://www.wri.org/insights/carbon-tax-vs-cap-and-trade-whats-better-policy-cut-emissions> (last visited Jan. 22, 2026).

¹⁵ World Bank Group, *State and Trends of Carbon Pricing*, 15 (2024), available at <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/b0d66765-299c-4fb8-921f-61f6bb979087>.

¹⁶ Michigan State University, *State Cap-and-Trade Programs*, 2 (2023), available at https://www.canr.msu.edu/fccp/Uploads/Files/2b.%20Cap%20and%20Trade_FINAL_v2.pdf. See generally EPA, *What is Emissions Trading?*, <https://www.epa.gov/emissions-trading/what-emissions-trading> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

¹⁷ *Id.*

jurisdictions.¹⁸ For example, the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is a cooperative effort among several participating U.S. states to cap and reduce power sector CO₂ emissions.¹⁹ The initiative establishes a regional CO₂ emissions cap, implemented through individual state CO₂ budget trading programs, and requires regulated fossil-fuel-fired power plants to hold allowances equal to their emissions. Allowances are distributed through quarterly regional auctions, with proceeds used by states to support energy efficiency, renewable energy, and other consumer benefit programs.²⁰

There are 75 carbon tax and emissions trading schemes in operation worldwide, covering approximately 24 percent of global emissions.²¹

Green Initiatives and Sustainability Plans

Many cities and counties throughout Florida have adopted green initiatives and plans to advance environmental sustainability by reducing emissions, conserving resources, and minimizing waste and pollution. For example, Leon County has adopted an Integrated Sustainability Action Plan with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from county operations by 30 percent by 2030, primarily through energy efficiency in county buildings, fleet electrification and fuel efficiency, waste diversion, sustainable purchasing, and public education on energy efficiency.²² The City of Doral's sustainability plan sets a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 10-15 percent by 2050 through preserving greenspaces, enhancing public transportation, and creating energy efficiency standards for buildings, transportation, and infrastructure.²³ Alachua County's Climate Action Plan includes a goal to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by 2050, with objectives that include strengthening food system security, supporting local production, improving energy efficiency and renewable energy use, protecting public health and critical infrastructure, conserving natural and water resources, enhancing waste management, and promoting land-use and transportation strategies that increase climate resilience.²⁴

Regional plans such as the Southeast Florida Priority Climate Action Plan establish greenhouse gas emission reduction targets for participating counties and outline strategies to achieve those targets. These strategies include transitioning government fleets to electric alternatives, including work trucks, buses, and refuse vehicles; expanding publicly available electric vehicle charging infrastructure; increasing public transit ridership; leveraging existing residential programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions through building improvements; promoting commercial

¹⁸ States with cap-and-trade programs include California, Oregon, Washington, and those states participating in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. Michigan State University, *State Cap-and-Trade Programs* at 7-13.

¹⁹ Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), *Elements of RGGI*, <https://www.rggi.org/program-overview-and-design/elements> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026). Participating states include Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont. *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*

²¹ World Bank Group, *State and Trends of Carbon Pricing*, 9, 18, 22 (2024), available at <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/entities/publication/b0d66765-299c-4fb8-921f-61f6bb979087>.

²² Leon County, *Integrated Sustainability Action Plan*, 5-24 (2019), available at <https://cms.leoncountyfl.gov/Portals/0/DeptFiles/Sustain/Docs/isap.pdf>.

²³ City of Doral, *Resolution No. 24-222*, Ex. A (2024), available at <https://www.cityofdoral.com/files/assets/city/v1/city-hall/city-clerk/resolutions-archived/2024/res.-no.-24-222-adoption-citywide-integrated-sustainability-plan-cisp.pdf>.

²⁴ Alachua County, *Climate Action Plan*, 2-3, 15-189 (2025), available at https://www.alachuacounty.us/Depts/epd/Documents/ADACompliant/Alachua-County-Climate-Action-Plan_Final_29Oct25.pdf.

equipment and building upgrades; and diverting organic waste from landfills, among other measures.²⁵

These initiatives often include a mix of planning commitments, regulatory measures, voluntary programs, and investments in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and waste diversion.

Paris Agreement

Goals for global temperature stabilization have been set by the Paris Agreement. The Paris Agreement is an international treaty to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change, including through the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.²⁶ The Agreement was adopted by 195 parties at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris on December 12, 2015, and entered into force on November 4, 2016.²⁷

The Paris Agreement's goal is to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels.²⁸ The Agreement does not include mandatory targets or timetables for parties to reduce their emissions. Instead, parties to the Agreement submit nationally determined contributions (NDCs) every five years and pursue mitigation measures with the aim of achieving the objectives of such contributions.²⁹ In 2024, the U.S. announced an updated NDC establishing an economy-wide target of reducing its net greenhouse gas emissions by 61-66 percent below 2005 levels in 2035.³⁰

The U.S. joined the Paris Agreement in September 2016³¹ but subsequently withdrew twice.³² Researchers using varying techniques and different assumptions have found differing potential

²⁵ Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact, *Southeast Florida Priority Climate Action Plan*, 27-46 (2024), available at https://southeastfloridacimatecompact.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Southeast-Florida-Priority-Climate-Action-Plan_Final2024.pdf. The Southeast Florida Regional Climate Change Compact is a partnership between Broward, Miami-Dade, Monroe, and Palm Beach counties.

²⁶ Paris Agreement to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), art. 2 (Dec. 12, 2015), T.I.A.S. No. 16-1104, available at https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/english_paris_agreement.pdf. The Paris Agreement is part of the UNFCCC, a framework established in 1992 for coordinated global action to address climate change. UN Climate Change (UNCC), *The Convention*, <https://unfccc.int/resource/bigpicture/> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

²⁷ See UNCC, *The Paris Agreement*, <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement> (last visited Jan. 21, 2026).

²⁸ UNFCCC Paris Agreement, art. 2.1.

²⁹ UNFCCC Paris Agreement, art. 4.2, 4.9.

³⁰ UNFCCC, *The United States of America—Nationally Determined Contribution*, 2 (2024), available at <https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/2024-12/United%20States%202035%20NDC.pdf>. The U.S. met and surpassed its 2020 target of net economy-wide emissions reductions in the range of 17 percent below 2005 levels, its initial Paris Agreement target set in 2015. *Id.* at 3.

³¹ UN Treaty Collection, Chapter XXVII: Environment, 7.d, Paris Agreement (Sept. 3, 2016), available at <https://treaties.un.org/doc/Publication/CN/2016/CN.612.2016-Eng.pdf>.

³² On November 4, 2019, the U.S. formally notified the UN Secretary General of its withdrawal. U.S. Department of State, *On the U.S. Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement*, <https://2017-2021.state.gov/on-the-u-s-withdrawal-from-the-paris-agreement/>. The withdrawal took effect on November 4, 2020, pursuant to article 28 of the Paris Agreement, which states that withdrawal takes effect one year after notification of withdrawal. See UNFCCC Paris Agreement, art. 28.2. The U.S. rejoined the Agreement on February 19, 2021. U.S. Department of State, *The United States Officially Rejoins the Paris Agreement*, <https://2021-2025.state.gov/the-united-states-officially-rejoins-the-paris-agreement/>. On January 20, 2025, President Trump issued an executive order directing the withdrawal from the Agreement. 90 Fed. Reg. 8455 (Jan. 30, 2025).

effects on the U.S. economy and global emissions as a result of withdrawal from the Paris Agreement.³³

Florida's Energy Policy

The purpose of the state's energy policy is to ensure an adequate, reliable, and cost-effective supply of energy for the state in a manner that promotes the health and welfare of the public and economic growth.³⁴ The Legislature intends that governance of the state's energy policy be efficiently directed toward achieving this purpose.³⁵ The state's energy policy is guided by the following goals:

- Ensuring a cost-effective and affordable energy supply.
- Ensuring adequate supply and capacity.
- Ensuring a secure, resilient, and reliable energy supply, with an emphasis on a diverse supply of domestic energy resources.
- Protecting public safety.
- Protecting the state's natural resources, including its coastlines, tributaries, and waterways.
- Supporting economic growth.³⁶

In furtherance of the goals, it is the policy of the state to:

- Promote the cost-effective development and use of a diverse supply of domestic energy resources in the state and discourage energy waste.
- Promote the cost-effective development and maintenance of energy infrastructure that is resilient to natural and manmade threats to the security and reliability of the state's energy supply.
- Reduce reliance on foreign energy resources.
- Include energy reliability and security considerations in all state, regional, and local planning.
- Utilize and manage effectively energy resources used within state agencies.
- Encourage local governments to include energy considerations in all planning and to support their work in promoting energy management programs.
- Include the full participation of citizens in the development and implementation of energy programs.
- Consider in its decisions the energy needs of each economic sector, including residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural, and governmental uses, and reduce those needs whenever possible.
- Promote energy education and the public dissemination of information on energy and its impacts in relation to the state's energy goals.
- Encourage the research, development, demonstration, and application of domestic energy resources, including the use of renewable energy resources.

³³ U.S. Congressional Research Service, *U.S. Withdrawal from the Paris Agreement: Process and Potential Effects*, 1, 12-16 (2025) available at <https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R48504>.

³⁴ Section 377.701(1), F.S.

³⁵ *Id.*

³⁶ Section 377.601(2), F.S.

- Consider the impacts of energy-related activities on the state's energy goals, including the whole-life-cycle impacts of any potential energy use choices, so that detrimental effects of these activities are understood and minimized.
- Develop and maintain energy emergency preparedness plans to minimize the effects of an energy shortage within this state.³⁷

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 creates s. 377.817, F.S., regarding net-zero and carbon policies, expenditures, taxes, assessments, and trade programs. The bill provides a legislative finding that net-zero policies, carbon taxes and assessments, and carbon emissions trading programs, commonly known as “cap-and-trade” or “cap-and-tax” programs, are detrimental to the state’s energy security and economic interests. The bill provides that it is the policy of this state to govern under the energy policy outlined in s. 377.601, F.S., and to prohibit the adoption or implementation of a net-zero policy by a governmental entity³⁸ in any way, including through government expenditures, taxes, assessments, or carbon emissions³⁹ trading programs.

The bill prohibits a governmental entity from not adopting, or requiring a person to adopt, a net-zero policy. This prohibition includes references to or the inclusion of such policies in comprehensive plans, land development regulations, transportation plans, or any published or adopted government policy or procedure.

The bill defines “net-zero policy” as any target, threshold, initiative, action, framework, requirement, or policy related to reducing the use of a carbon-intensive product or activity, including:

- A requirement imposed by a governmental entity which requires the governmental entity to meet a statewide, regional, or geographically specific reduction in carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas⁴⁰ emissions equal to zero or when annual anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases or carbon dioxide equivalent emissions⁴¹ to the atmosphere are balanced by removals over a specific period.
- A requirement imposed by a governmental entity which requires a person or business activity, including a carbon-intensive activity, to do any of the following:
 - Meet a specific reduction in greenhouse gas or carbon dioxide equivalent emissions equal to zero or when annual anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere are balanced by removals over a specific period.
 - Meet any goal of the Paris Agreement, defined as the resolution adopted by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change’s 21st Conference of the Parties in Paris, France; or any similar initiative adopted by the Federal Government or any

³⁷ *Id.*

³⁸ The bill defines “governmental entity” as the state or any political subdivision thereof, including the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government; the independent establishments of the state, counties, municipalities, districts, authorities, boards, or commissions; and any agencies subject to ch. 377, F.S., regarding energy resources. The term also includes community development districts, improvement districts, and homeowners’ associations.

³⁹ The bill defines “emissions” as the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere or air by a person.

⁴⁰ The bill defines “greenhouse gas” as carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, or nitrogen trifluoride.

⁴¹ The bill defines “carbon dioxide equivalent emissions” as the number of metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions with the same global warming potential as one metric ton of another greenhouse gas.

geopolitical organization affiliated with the World Bank or World Economic Forum related to such.

- Support the goal of a regional governing authority or multistate entity that commits to a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions equal to zero or when annual anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere are balanced by removals over a specific period.
- Restrict a carbon-intensive activity from which a person would not otherwise be restricted, for the sole purpose of meeting a net-zero policy. This may not be construed to legalize an otherwise illegal action by a person.
- Prohibit the use, sale, purchase, or exchange of a carbon-intensive product or carbon for the sole purpose of meeting a net-zero policy. This may not be construed to legalize an otherwise illegal action by a person.

The bill defines “carbon dioxide” as a naturally occurring gas composed of one carbon atom and two oxygen atoms that occurs as a byproduct of burning fossil fuels, such as oil, gas, or coal; a byproduct of burning biomass; a byproduct of land use changes; or a byproduct of industrial processes.

The bill defines “carbon-intensive product” as any of the following, including a product containing a component of such:

- Products containing iron; steel; steel mill products, including pipe and tube; aluminum; cement; glass, including flat, container, and specialty glass and fiberglass; oil or a component thereof; minerals and metals; pulp; and paper.
- An agricultural commodity or product, whether raw or processed, including a commodity or product derived from livestock which is marketed in the United States for human or livestock consumption. The term also includes agricultural, aquacultural, horticultural, viticultural, and dairy products; livestock and the products thereof; the products of poultry and bee raising; the edible products of forestry; and products raised or produced on farms and the processed or manufactured products thereof transported or intended to be transported in interstate or foreign commerce.

The bill defines “carbon-intensive activity” as any business activity⁴² or other activity performed by a person which supports any of the following:

- The movement of people or goods through methods of transportation, including automobiles, commercial vehicles, freight haulers, aircraft, vessels, pipelines, delivery devices, and similar methods, and the use of energy resources to power or operate such transportation methods.
- The creation or transmission of energy resources for the following commercial and residential uses: electricity; manufacturing; sustaining human life, including refrigeration and cooling in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces; waste management; or the operation or manufacturing of appliances for human use.
- The performance of activities to support the production of a carbon-intensive product, including farming, agriculture, hunting and gathering, or the taking of fish and wildlife to sustain human life.

⁴² The bill defines “business activity” as any activity or series of activities that (1) involve the emission of a greenhouse gas or a combination thereof; and (2) form a single undertaking or enterprise with regard to any relevant circumstances.

- The operation or purchase of a vessel for transporting a person or an object by use of an energy source.
- The use of methods authorized by authorities to take fish and wildlife resources.
- The mining, exploration, or manufacturing of products to support the continued livelihood of mankind.

The bill prohibits a governmental entity from expending government funds⁴³ to a person in a manner that supports, implements, or advances a net-zero policy, including by doing any of the following:

- Providing procurement or purchasing preferences for non-carbon-intensive products.
- Instituting purchasing preferences for passenger vehicles, commercial vehicles, or heavy equipment based solely on the fuel source of such vehicles or equipment.
- Expend government funds to pay dues for a nongovernmental organization, including a trade association or league of government entities, that has adopted or supports a net-zero policy.

The bill prohibits a governmental entity from imposing a tax, a fee, a penalty, a charge, an offset, or an assessment to advance a net-zero policy. This includes, but is not limited to, a tax, a fee, a penalty, a charge, an offset, or an assessment on any of the following:

- The carbon content of a fuel.
- The emission of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gas which results from the use, production, or consumption of a good or service.
- A carbon-intensive activity.
- The use, sale, purchase, or exchange of a carbon-intensive product or carbon-intensive activity to advance a net-zero policy.

The bill provides that a governmental entity may not implement, administer, or enforce a program that has the effect of doing any of the following:

- Establishing a statewide, regional, or geographic specific limit or cap on the amount of emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gas which result from the use, production, or consumption of a carbon-intensive product or carbon-intensive activity.
- Providing for the allocation, auction, or transfer of emissions allowances or credits among pollutant sources as a means of compliance with emissions limits.
- Requiring a governmental entity or a person within this state to participate in a carbon emissions trading program.

The bill provides that, beginning January 1, 2027, the Department of Environmental Protection must annually require all governmental entities to submit an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury by an authorized official of the governmental entity attesting compliance with this section.

⁴³ The bill defines “government funds” as state funds, as that term is described in s. 215.31, F.S., and any moneys of the state or of any Florida College System institution or state university, county, school district, political subdivision, special district, metropolitan government, or municipality, including agencies, boards, bureaus, commissions, and institutions of any of the foregoing, or of any court, and includes the moneys of all county officers, including constitutional officers.

The bill provides that this section applies to a proposed action by a governmental entity on or after July 1, 2026, which is otherwise not allowable by law.

Section 2 amends s. 125.01, F.S., regarding powers and duties of county governments. The bill provides that county comprehensive plans and zoning and business regulations must comply with this bill. The bill provides that counties may not levy and collect taxes that are prohibited by this bill.

Section 3 amends s. 166.021, F.S., regarding powers of municipalities. Currently, “municipal purpose” is defined as any activity or power which may be exercised by the state or its political subdivisions. The bill specifies that this term does not include the prohibitions listed in this bill.

Section 4 amends s. 166.201, F.S., regarding taxes and charges by municipalities. The bill prohibits a municipality from raising money through taxation and licenses or other charges or fees that are inconsistent with this bill.

Section 5 provides an effective date of July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill may have an indeterminate fiscal impact on governmental entities to the extent that it limits the use of existing or future net-zero policies that could affect agency planning and procurement decisions.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 125.01, 166.021, and 166.201.

This bill creates section 377.817 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

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

CS by Environment and Natural Resources on Jan. 27, 2026:

Revised the definition of carbon dioxide to include its chemical composition.

B. Amendments:

None.

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



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/27/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (Avila) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment**

2

3 Delete line 35

4 and insert:

5 (b) "Carbon dioxide" means a naturally occurring gas
6 composed of one carbon atom and two oxygen atoms that

By Senator Avila

39-01210A-26

20261628

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to net-zero policies by governmental entities; creating s. 377.817, F.S.; defining terms; providing legislative findings; providing a declaration of state policy; prohibiting governmental entities from adopting or requiring the adoption of net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from expending government funds to support, implement, or advance net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from imposing taxes, fees, penalties, charges, offsets, or assessments to advance net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from implementing, administering, or enforcing a program that functions as a cap-and-trade program; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to require a specified annual affidavit from all governmental entities; providing applicability; amending ss. 125.01, 166.021, and 166.201, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 377.817, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

377.817 Net zero and carbon policies, expenditures, taxes, assessments, or trade programs; prohibition.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Business activity" means any activity or series of

39-01210A-26

20261628

30 activities that:31 1. Involve the emission of a greenhouse gas or a
32 combination thereof; and33 2. Form a single undertaking or enterprise with regard to
34 any relevant circumstances.35 (b) "Carbon dioxide" means a naturally occurring gas that
36 occurs as a byproduct of burning fossil fuels, such as oil, gas,
37 or coal; a byproduct of burning biomass; a byproduct of land use
38 changes; or a byproduct of industrial processes.39 (c) "Carbon dioxide equivalent emissions" means the number
40 of metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions with the same global
41 warming potential as one metric ton of another greenhouse gas.42 (d) "Carbon-intensive activity" means any business activity
43 or other activity performed by a person which supports any of
44 the following:45 1. The movement of people or goods through methods of
46 transportation, including automobiles, commercial vehicles,
47 freight haulers, aircraft, vessels, pipelines, delivery devices,
48 and similar methods, and the use of energy resources to power or
49 operate such transportation methods.50 2. The creation or transmission of energy resources for the
51 following commercial and residential uses: electricity;
52 manufacturing; sustaining human life, including refrigeration
53 and cooling in enclosed or partially enclosed spaces; waste
54 management; or the operation or manufacturing of appliances for
55 human use.56 3. The performance of activities to support the production
57 of a carbon-intensive product, including farming, agriculture,
58 hunting and gathering, or the taking of fish and wildlife to

39-01210A-26

20261628

59 sustain human life.

60 4. The operation or purchase of a vessel for transporting a
61 person or an object by use of an energy source.

62 5. The use of methods authorized by authorities to take
63 fish and wildlife resources.

64 6. The mining, exploration, or manufacturing of products to
65 support the continued livelihood of mankind.

66 (e) "Carbon-intensive product" means any of the following,
67 including a product containing a component of such:

68 1. Products containing iron; steel; steel mill products,
69 including pipe and tube; aluminum; cement; glass, including
70 flat, container, and specialty glass and fiberglass; oil or a
71 component thereof; minerals and metals; pulp; and paper.

72 2. An agricultural commodity or product, whether raw or
73 processed, including a commodity or product derived from
74 livestock which is marketed in the United States for human or
75 livestock consumption. The term also includes agricultural,
76 aquacultural, horticultural, viticultural, and dairy products;
77 livestock and the products thereof; the products of poultry and
78 bee raising; the edible products of forestry; and products
79 raised or produced on farms and the processed or manufactured
80 products thereof transported or intended to be transported in
81 interstate or foreign commerce.

82 (f) "Emissions" means the release of greenhouse gases into
83 the atmosphere or air by a person.

84 (g) "Governmental entity" means the state or any political
85 subdivision thereof, including the executive, legislative, and
86 judicial branches of government; the independent establishments
87 of the state, counties, municipalities, districts, authorities,

39-01210A-26

20261628

boards, or commissions; and any agencies subject to this chapter. The term also includes community development districts, improvement districts, and homeowners' associations.

(h) "Government funds" means state funds, as that term is described in s. 215.31, and any moneys of the state or of any Florida College System institution or state university, county, school district, political subdivision, special district, metropolitan government, or municipality, including agencies, boards, bureaus, commissions, and institutions of any of the foregoing, or of any court, and includes the moneys of all county officers, including constitutional officers.

(i) "Greenhouse gas" means any of the following gases: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, or nitrogen trifluoride.

(j) "Net-zero policy" means any target, threshold, initiative, action, framework, requirement, or policy related to reducing the use of a carbon-intensive product or activity, including:

1. A requirement imposed by a governmental entity which requires the governmental entity to meet a statewide, regional, or geographically specific reduction in carbon dioxide or greenhouse gas emissions equal to zero or when annual anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases or carbon dioxide equivalent emissions to the atmosphere are balanced by removals over a specific period.

2. A requirement imposed by a governmental entity which requires a person or business activity, including a carbon-intensive activity, to do any of the following:

a. Meet a specific reduction in greenhouse gas or carbon

39-01210A-26

20261628

117 dioxide equivalent emissions equal to zero or when annual
118 anthropogenic emissions of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere
119 are balanced by removals over a specific period.

120 b. Meet any goal of the Paris Agreement, defined as the
121 resolution adopted by the United Nations Framework Convention on
122 Climate Change's 21st Conference of the Parties in Paris,
123 France; or any similar initiative adopted by the Federal
124 Government or any geopolitical organization affiliated with the
125 World Bank or World Economic Forum related to such.

126 c. Support the goal of a regional governing authority or
127 multistate entity that commits to a reduction in greenhouse gas
128 emissions equal to zero or when annual anthropogenic emissions
129 of greenhouse gases to the atmosphere are balanced by removals
130 over a specific period.

131 d. Restrict a carbon-intensive activity from which a person
132 would not otherwise be restricted, for the sole purpose of
133 meeting a net-zero policy. This may not be construed to legalize
134 an otherwise illegal action by a person.

135 e. Prohibit the use, sale, purchase, or exchange of a
136 carbon-intensive product or carbon for the sole purpose of
137 meeting a net-zero policy. This may not be construed to legalize
138 an otherwise illegal action by a person.

139 (2) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—The Legislature finds that net-
140 zero policies, carbon taxes and assessments, and carbon
141 emissions trading programs, commonly known as "cap-and-trade" or
142 "cap-and-tax" programs, are detrimental to the state's energy
143 security and economic interests. It is the policy of this state
144 to govern under the energy policy outlined in s. 377.601 and to
145 prohibit the adoption or implementation of a net-zero policy by

39-01210A-26

20261628

146 a governmental entity in any way, including through government
147 expenditures, taxes, assessments, or carbon emissions trading
148 programs.

149 (3) PROHIBITED POLICIES.—A governmental entity may not
150 adopt, or require a person to adopt, a net-zero policy. This
151 prohibition includes references to or the inclusion of such
152 policies in comprehensive plans, land development regulations,
153 transportation plans, or any published or adopted government
154 policy or procedure.

155 (4) PROHIBITED EXPENDITURES.—A governmental entity may not
156 expend government funds to a person in a manner that supports,
157 implements, or advances a net-zero policy, including by doing
158 any of the following:

159 (a) Providing procurement or purchasing preferences for
160 non-carbon-intensive products.

161 (b) Instituting purchasing preferences for passenger
162 vehicles, commercial vehicles, or heavy equipment based solely
163 on the fuel source of such vehicles or equipment.

164 (c) Expendng government funds to pay dues for a
165 nongovernmental organization, including a trade association or
166 league of government entities, that has adopted or supports a
167 net-zero policy.

168 (5) PROHIBITED TAXATION AND ASSESSMENTS.—A governmental
169 entity may not impose a tax, a fee, a penalty, a charge, an
170 offset, or an assessment to advance a net-zero policy. This
171 includes, but shall not be limited to, a tax, a fee, a penalty,
172 a charge, an offset, or an assessment on any of the following:

173 (a) The carbon content of a fuel.

174 (b) The emission of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gas

39-01210A-26

20261628

175 which results from the use, production, or consumption of a good
176 or service.

177 (c) A carbon-intensive activity.

178 (d) The use, sale, purchase, or exchange of a carbon-
179 intensive product or carbon-intensive activity to advance a net-
180 zero policy.

181 (6) PROHIBITED CAP-AND-TRADE PROGRAMS.—A governmental
182 entity may not implement, administer, or enforce a program that
183 has the effect of doing any of the following:

184 (a) Establishing a statewide, regional, or geographic
185 specific limit or cap on the amount of emissions of carbon
186 dioxide or other greenhouse gas which result from the use,
187 production, or consumption of a carbon-intensive product or
188 carbon-intensive activity.

189 (b) Providing for the allocation, auction, or transfer of
190 emissions allowances or credits among pollutant sources as a
191 means of compliance with emissions limits.

192 (c) Requiring a governmental entity or a person within this
193 state to participate in a carbon emissions trading program.

194 (7) AFFIDAVIT.—Beginning January 1, 2027, the Department of
195 Environmental Protection shall annually require all governmental
196 entities to submit an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury
197 by an authorized official of the governmental entity attesting
198 compliance with this section.

199 (8) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies to a proposed
200 action by a governmental entity on or after July 1, 2026, which
201 is otherwise not allowable by law.

202 Section 2. Paragraphs (g), (h), and (r) of subsection (1)
203 of section 125.01, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

39-01210A-26

20261628

204 125.01 Powers and duties.—

205 (1) The legislative and governing body of a county shall
206 have the power to carry on county government. To the extent not
207 inconsistent with general or special law, this power includes,
208 but is not restricted to, the power to:

209 (g) Prepare and enforce comprehensive plans for the
210 development of the county. Such plans must comply with s.
211 377.817.

212 (h) Establish, coordinate, and enforce zoning and such
213 business regulations as are necessary for the protection of the
214 public. Such zoning and business regulations must comply with s.
215 377.817.

216 (r) Except as prohibited in s. 377.817, levy and collect
217 taxes, both for county purposes and for the providing of
218 municipal services within any municipal service taxing unit, and
219 special assessments; borrow and expend money; and issue bonds,
220 revenue certificates, and other obligations of indebtedness,
221 which power shall be exercised in such manner, and subject to
222 such limitations, as may be provided by general law. There shall
223 be no referendum required for the levy by a county of ad valorem
224 taxes, both for county purposes and for the providing of
225 municipal services within any municipal service taxing unit.

226 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a county may
227 not levy special assessments on lands classified as agricultural
228 lands under s. 193.461 unless the revenue from such assessments
229 has been pledged for debt service and is necessary to meet
230 obligations of bonds or certificates issued by the county which
231 remain outstanding on July 1, 2023, including refundings thereof
232 for debt service savings where the maturity of the debt is not

39-01210A-26

20261628

233 extended. For bonds or certificates issued after July 1, 2023,
234 special assessments securing such bonds may not be levied on
235 lands classified as agricultural under s. 193.461.

236 2. ~~The provisions of~~ Subparagraph 1. does ~~do~~ not apply to
237 residential structures and their curtilage.

238 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 166.021, Florida
239 Statutes, is amended to read:

240 166.021 Powers.—

241 (2) "Municipal purpose" means any activity or power which
242 may be exercised by the state or its political subdivisions. The
243 term does not include the prohibitions listed in s. 377.817.

244 Section 4. Section 166.201, Florida Statutes, is amended to
245 read:

246 166.201 Taxes and charges.—Except as prohibited in s.
247 377.817, a municipality may raise, by taxation and licenses
248 authorized by the constitution or general law, or by user
249 charges or fees authorized by ordinance, amounts of money which
250 are necessary for the conduct of municipal government and may
251 enforce their receipt and collection in the manner prescribed by
252 ordinance not inconsistent with law.

253 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

1-27-20

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Meeting Date

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Environment and Natural Resources

Committee

Name Matthew Grocholske

Phone 8632247501

Address 1701 Lee Rd

Email matthewforfl@gmail.com

Street

Winter Park FL 32784

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.	<input type="checkbox"/> I am a registered lobbyist, representing:	<input type="checkbox"/> I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://fisenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (fisenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1/27/26

Meeting Date

Natural Resources

Committee

Name Kim Ross

Address PO Box 1341
Street

Tallahassee FL 32302
City State Zip

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1628

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone 850-888-2565

Email kim@rethinkenergy.florida.org

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1/27

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1628

Meeting Date

Comm. Affairs

Deliver both copies of this form to

~~Ag & Natural Resources~~

Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Name

JENNIFER WEBB

Phone

727-320-6275

Address

1019 17 Ave S

Street

Email

jw@jw-consultants.
com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

 In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing:Serenia Club -
FL I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1-27-26

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Meeting Date

Environment and Natural
Resources

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name Joshua Frederick

Phone 904-400-2207

Address 720-W 6th Ave

Street

Tallahassee FL

City

32384

State

Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

<p>PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am a registered lobbyist, representing: _____</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by: _____</p>		
--	--	--

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

1/27/26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1428

Bill Number or Topic

Environment + Natural
Resources

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name TESSA NIEMAYERPhone 619-384-2560Address 75 N Woodward Ave #3574
StreetEmail TESSA.K.NIEMAYER@GMAIL.COMCity Tallahassee State FL Zip 32313Speaking: For Against Information**OR**Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1-27-26

Meeting Date

Environment and Natural
Committee Resources

Name Daniel Martinez

Phone 305-240-2917

Address 107 E College Ave
Street TLH FL 32301

Email Dmartinez20@FPL.com

City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

<p>PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> I am a registered lobbyist, representing: <i>AMERICANS for Prosperity</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:</p>		
---	--	--

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (f1senate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

01/27/26

Meeting Date

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

SB1628

Bill Number or Topic

Environmental and Natural Resources

Committee

Name Zane Menendez

Address 1337 Quailley St

Street

Orlando

City

FL

State

32804

Zip

Phone 407-451-5102

Email Zane5824@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against



I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1/27/26

Meeting Date

Env. + Nat resource

Committee

Name Jenna Rembaum

Phone _____

Address P.O. Box 13184

Street

St. Petersburg, FL

City

State

33733

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

SB #1628

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

1/27/26

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Meeting Date

Environmental Resources

Deliver both copies of this form to

Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

SEAN CRUMPACKER

Name

Phone

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

SB 2017 8838

Address 2240 PINE PARK TRL

Street

OKLAHOMA

FL

32817

City

State

Zip

Email

Sean.Crumpacker@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

1/27/2026

Meeting Date

Env. & Nat. Resources

Committee

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1628

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

META CALDNER

Phone

850-228-5980

Address

3740 RAJINE DR.

Street

Email

metacaldner@gmail.com

Tallahassee

FL

32312-1150

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

1/27/2021

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1628

Bill Number or Topic

Environment + Natural Resources

Committee

Name Patrick Love

Phone

412-298-8092

Address 2467 Goldenrod Way

Street

Email

plloves64@gmail.com

Tallahassee Fl

City

State

32311

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

27 January 2026

Meeting Date
Environment & Natural Resources

Committee

Name **Kahreem Golden**

Address **1035 S Semoran Blvd, Suite 2-1021B**

Street

Winter Park

FL

32792

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

The Nature Conservancy

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

DUPLICATE

SB 1628

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone **850-345-7108**

Email **kahreem.golden@tnc.org**

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

JAN 27

Meeting Date

Ag

Committee

Name

Thomas Lynch

Phone

Address

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For

Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

01/27/24

Meeting Date

Envrom. Resources

Committee

Name Amina Spahic

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1628

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Address

Street

Phone

Email

City

State

Zip

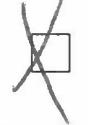
Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Florida For ALL

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flsenate.gov)

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

S-001 (08/10/2021)

Bonn, Kim

From: Ruiz, Judith
Sent: Tuesday, January 20, 2026 9:42 AM
To: Rodriguez, Ana Maria; Rogers, Ellen; Bonn, Kim; Cariota, Teri
Subject: Request SB 1628 Net-Zero Policies to be placed in Committee Agenda

On Behalf of Senator Bryan Avila:

January 20, 2026

Honorable Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez
Committee on Environment and Natural Resources
The Florida Senate
325 Knott Building
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Honorable Senator Rodriguez,

I respectfully request SB 1628 Net-Zero Policies by Governmental Entities be placed on the next committee agenda.

SB 1628 Net-Zero Policies by Governmental Entities; Prohibits governmental entities from adopting or requiring the adoption of net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from expending government funds to support, implement, or advance net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from imposing taxes, fees, penalties, charges, offsets, or assessments to advance net-zero policies; prohibiting governmental entities from implementing, administering, or enforcing a program that functions as a cap-and-trade program.

Sincerely,



Senator, District 39

CC: Ellen Rogers, Staff Director
Kim Bonn, Administrative Assistant
Teri Cariota, Legislative Assistant

Judith M. Ruiz
Chief Legislative Aide
Senator Bryan Avila, District 39

Hialeah Gardens City Hall
10001 NW. 87 Avenue
Hialeah Gardens, Florida 33016
305-364-3073

309 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100
850-487-5039



Please Note: Florida has a very broad public records law. Most written communications to or from Florida Senators and Senate employees regarding legislative business are considered to be public records and will be made available to the public and the media upon request. Your e-mail messages may, therefore, be subject to public disclosure.

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 110

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Senate Environment And Natural Resources Committee

Judge:

Started: 1/27/2026 3:31:42 PM

Ends: 1/27/2026 5:30:08 PM **Length:** 01:58:27

3:31:43 PM Chair Rodriguez calls meeting to order

3:31:46 PM Roll call

3:31:58 PM Quorum announced

3:32:21 PM Pledge of Allegiance led by Vice Chair Mayfield

3:32:32 PM Chair Rodriguez with opening comments

3:32:47 PM Tab 5, SB 1682 by Senator Trumbull, Local Administration of Vessel Restrictions introduced by Chair Rodriguez

3:32:55 PM Senator Trumbull explains the Bill

3:33:33 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:33:44 PM Peter Abello, Florida Association of Counties waives

3:33:46 PM Debate

3:33:50 PM Senator Mayfield

3:34:32 PM Senator Harrell

3:35:08 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:35:34 PM Senator Trumbull with closure

3:36:12 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:36:16 PM Roll call

3:36:31 PM SB 1682 reportedly favorably

3:36:47 PM Tab 3, SB 1468 by Senator Berman, Advanced Wastewater Treatment introduced by Chair Rodriguez

3:37:06 PM Senator Polsky explains the Bill

3:37:27 PM

3:38:21 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:39:07 PM Speaker Alicia Keeter, Florida Rural Water Association

3:40:16 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:40:27 PM Senator Polsky with closure

3:40:30 PM Roll call

3:40:44 PM SB 1468 reported favorably

3:40:58 PM Tab 2, SB 1294 by Senator Bradley, Biosolids Management introduced by Chair Rodriguez

3:41:04 PM Senator Bradley explains the Bill

3:41:17 PM Amendment Barcode No. 145986 introduced by Chair Rodriguez

3:41:31 PM Senator Bradley explains the Amendment

3:42:58 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:43:10 PM Closure waived

3:43:13 PM Amendment adopted

3:43:19 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:43:37 PM Tim Day, Escambia County waives

3:43:57 PM Speaker John November, Public Trust Law

3:45:06 PM Speaker Alicia Keeter, Florida Rural Water Association

3:46:18 PM Chair Rodriguez

3:46:30 PM Senator Bradley with closure

3:47:50 PM Roll call
3:48:04 PM CS/SB 1294 reported favorably
3:48:20 PM Tab 6, SB 1628 by Senator Avila, Net-zero Policies by Governmental Entities introduced by Chair Rodriguez
3:48:28 PM Senator Avila explains the Bill
3:50:33 PM Chair Rodriguez
3:50:36 PM Questions
3:50:41 PM Senator Arrington
3:50:53 PM Senator Avila
3:51:24 PM Senator Arrington
3:51:42 PM Senator Avila
3:53:06 PM Amendment Barcode No. 886550 introduced by Chair Rodriguez
3:53:20 PM Senator Avila explains the Amendment
3:53:28 PM Chair Rodriguez
3:53:34 PM Closure waived
3:53:38 PM Amendment adopted
3:53:42 PM Chair Rodriguez
3:53:45 PM Questions
3:53:47 PM Senator Smith
3:54:41 PM Senator Avila
3:55:19 PM Senator Smith
3:55:53 PM Senator Avila
3:57:02 PM Senator Smith
3:58:08 PM Senator Avila
3:59:33 PM Senator Smith
4:00:15 PM Senator Avila
4:01:44 PM Senator Smith
4:03:08 PM Senator Avila
4:04:33 PM Senator Smith
4:05:01 PM Senator Avila
4:06:19 PM Senator Smith
4:07:22 PM Senator Avila
4:08:57 PM Senator Smith
4:09:07 PM Senator Avila
4:09:56 PM Senator Smith
4:10:30 PM Senator Avila
4:11:06 PM Senator Polsky
4:11:29 PM Senator Avila
4:13:57 PM Senator Polsky
4:15:03 PM Senator Avila
4:16:13 PM Senator Polsky
4:16:39 PM Senator Avila
4:17:59 PM Senator Polsky
4:18:54 PM Senator Avila
4:19:51 PM Senator Arrington
4:20:18 PM Senator Avila
4:21:48 PM Senator Arrington
4:22:09 PM Senator Avila
4:23:10 PM Senator Arrington
4:23:14 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:23:27 PM Speaker Matthew Gochoske
4:24:45 PM Speaker Kim Ross

4:28:03 PM Speaker Jennifer Webb, Sierra Club of Florida
4:31:30 PM Joshua Frederick waives
4:31:33 PM Tessa Niemeyer waives
4:31:37 PM Daniel Merdinez, Americans for Prosperity waives
4:31:43 PM Zane Menendez waives
4:31:48 PM Jenna Rembaum waives
4:31:51 PM Sean Crumpacker waives
4:31:56 PM Meta Calder waives
4:32:01 PM Patrick Love waives
4:32:04 PM Kareem Golden, The Nature Conservancy waives
4:32:10 PM Speaker Thomas Lynch
4:35:49 PM Amina Spanic, Florida For All waives
4:35:54 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:35:56 PM Debate
4:35:59 PM Senator Smith
4:40:13 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:40:21 PM Senator Avila with closure
4:43:08 PM Roll call
4:43:24 PM CS/SB 1628 reported favorably
4:43:34 PM Tab 4, SB 1474 by Senator Gaetz, Biosolids Management introduced by Chair Rodriguez
4:43:44 PM Senator Gaetz explains the Bill
4:44:19 PM Amendment Barcode No. 918056 introduced by Chair Rodriguez
4:44:23 PM Senator Gaetz explains the Amendment
4:44:27 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:44:34 PM Closure waived
4:44:37 PM Amendment adopted
4:44:43 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:45:14 PM Speaker Jason Autrey, Deputy County Administrator
4:45:49 PM Speaker Alicia Keeter, Florida Rural Water Association
4:46:46 PM Andrew Kalel, Hernando County Government waives
4:46:52 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:47:04 PM Senator Gaetz with closure
4:47:31 PM Roll call
4:47:45 PM CS/SB 1474 reported favorably
4:47:58 PM Tab 1, SB 558 by Senator Burgess, Standards for Storm Water System introduced by Chair Rodriguez
4:48:06 PM Senator Burgess explains the Bill
4:49:42 PM Amendment Barcode No. 950356 introduced by Chair Rodriguez
4:49:53 PM Senator Burgess explains the Amendment
4:50:58 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:51:10 PM Closure waived
4:51:12 PM Amendment adopted
4:51:16 PM Chair Rodriguez
4:51:19 PM Questions
4:51:22 PM Senator Arrington
4:51:54 PM Senator Burgess
4:53:06 PM Senator Arrington
4:53:21 PM Senator Burgess
4:53:47 PM Senator Arrington
4:54:27 PM Senator Burgess
4:55:49 PM Senator Arrington

4:56:18 PM Senator Burgess
4:57:00 PM Senator Smith
4:58:04 PM Senator Burgess
4:58:54 PM Senator Smith
4:59:41 PM Senator Burgess
4:59:52 PM Senator Smith
5:00:25 PM Senator Burgess
5:00:50 PM Senator Smith
5:02:00 PM Senator Burgess
5:02:14 PM Senator Smith
5:02:26 PM Senator Burgess
5:02:36 PM Senator Smith
5:03:21 PM Senator Burgess
5:03:31 PM Senator Smith
5:03:55 PM Senator Burgess
5:05:18 PM Chair Rodriguez
5:06:03 PM Speaker Kari Hebrank, National Utility Contractors Association of Florida
5:06:54 PM Speaker Paul Knight, NUCA of Florida
5:09:00 PM Speaker Douglas Holdener, Florida Concrete Pipe Association
5:13:55 PM Speaker Peter Abello, Florida Association of Counties
5:16:45 PM Speaker William Clark Cryer, NUCA of Florida
5:20:33 PM Speaker Kevin Coyne, Florida Stormwater Association
5:22:29 PM Chris Doolin, Small County Coalition waives
5:22:35 PM Pamela Watt/Halsey Beshears, Atlantic Pipe Services waives
5:22:45 PM Chair Rodriguez
5:22:48 PM Debate
5:22:54 PM Senator Arrington
5:23:30 PM Senator DiCeglie
5:25:06 PM Senator Smith
5:26:44 PM Senator Mayfield
5:27:18 PM Senator Harrell
5:27:47 PM Chair Rodriguez
5:27:58 PM Senator Burgess with closure
5:29:07 PM Roll call
5:29:19 PM CS/SB 558 reported favorably
5:29:28 PM Chair Rodriguez
5:29:42 PM Senator Arrington would like to be shown voting in the affirmative on Tabs 5 and 3
5:29:46 PM Senator DiCeglie would like to be shown voting in the affirmative on Tab 5
5:29:56 PM Senator Arrington moves to adjourn
5:29:59 PM Meeting adjourned