

By the Committee on Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations and Representatives Jones, Carlton, Kelly, Healey, King, Lacasa, Wiles, Westbrook, Greene, Heyman, Betancourt, Lynn, Rodriguez-Chomat, Safley, Dawson-White and Bradley

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to funding for beach
3 management; amending s. 161.091, F.S.;
4 requiring the Department of Environmental
5 Protection to make a concerted effort to
6 identify an additional dedicated revenue source
7 to fund the beach nourishment plan; requiring
8 the department, in concert with any increased
9 funding, to develop a corresponding multiyear
10 repair and maintenance strategy and providing
11 the requirements thereof; providing an
12 effective date.

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14 WHEREAS, the Legislature, pursuant to s. 161.088,
15 Florida Statutes, has previously recognized that beach erosion
16 is a serious threat to the economic and general welfare of the
17 people of this state, which has advanced to emergency
18 proportions, and

19 WHEREAS, since this declaration a decade ago, the
20 health of Florida beaches has further deteriorated, over
21 one-third of which are now critically eroding, can no longer
22 provide effective upland storm protection, and have lost much
23 of their value to tourism, and

24 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the urgency of the
25 problem and declares its intent to fully fund the development
26 and implementation of the comprehensive, long-range, statewide
27 beach management plan for erosion control, beach preservation,
28 beach restoration, beach nourishment, and hurricane protection
29 provided for in ss. 161.091-161.202, Florida Statutes, and

30 WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Legislature to fund
31 the implementation of Florida's beach management plan, for at

1 least the next 15 years, in the amount of \$30 million to \$35
2 million annually and to do so in a fiscally responsible
3 manner, and

4 WHEREAS, while the Legislature finds that reliance on
5 general revenue in the short term may be necessary, its intent
6 is to further identify other permanent, designated funding
7 sources for the continued implementation of this beach-saving
8 management strategy, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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12 Section 1. Section 161.091, Florida Statutes, 1996
13 Supplement, is amended to read:

14 161.091 Funding for beach management.--

15 (1) Subject to such appropriations as the Legislature
16 may make therefor from time to time, disbursements from the
17 Florida Permit Fee Trust Fund may be made by the division
18 subject to the approval of the department in order to carry
19 out the proper state responsibilities in a comprehensive,
20 long-range, statewide beach management plan for erosion
21 control; beach preservation, beach restoration, and beach
22 renourishment; and hurricane protection. The department shall
23 make a concerted effort to identify an additional dedicated
24 revenue source to fund the beach management plan.

25 (2) In concert with any increased funding, the
26 department shall develop a corresponding multiyear repair and
27 maintenance strategy that:

28 (a) Ensures the geographic coordination and sequencing
29 of prioritized projects;

30 (b) Reduces equipment mobilization and demobilization
31 costs;

1 (c) Maximizes the infusion of beach-quality sand into
2 the system;

3 (d) Extends the life of beach nourishment projects and
4 reduces the frequency of renourishment; and

5 (e) Promotes inlet sand bypassing to replicate the
6 natural flow of sand interrupted by inlets and ports.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
8 law.

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