1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to lighthouses; directing the 3 Department of Community Affairs and the 4 Department of State to conduct a study of 5 lighthouses in the state; providing 6 requirements of the study; providing for 7 planning and funding responsibilities; 8 directing each department to make a budget 9 request for funding purposes; providing an 10 effective date. 11 12 WHEREAS, Florida is a maritime state and has depended 13 on the sea for commerce and transportation throughout its 14 history, and 15 WHEREAS, lighthouses have facilitated that maritime development, saving many lives and vessels, and 16 17 WHEREAS, many historic lighthouses in this state are in poor and unstable condition, and 18 19 WHEREAS, it is declared to be the public policy of the 20 state to identify historic lighthouses, assess their 21 condition, stabilize them, and make them available to the 22 public in recognition of the history and heritage of Florida, 23 NOW, THEREFORE, 24 25 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 26 27 Section 1. (1) The Coastal Management Program of the 28 Department of Community Affairs and the Division of Historical 29 Resources of the Department of State shall undertake a study

of the lighthouses in the state. The study must determine the

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all lighthouses in the state and ensure that all historically 1 2 significant lighthouses are nominated for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. The study must assess 3 the condition and restoration needs of historic lighthouses 4 5 and develop plans for appropriate future public access and 6 use. The Coastal Management Program and the Division of 7 Historical Resources shall take a leadership role in 8 implementing plans to stabilize lighthouses and associated 9 structures and to preserve and protect them from future deterioration. When possible, the lighthouses and associated 10 11 buildings should be made available to the public for 12 educational and recreational purposes. The Department of 13 Community Affairs should consider these responsibilities to be 14 a priority of the Florida Coastal Management Program and 15 implementation of this act should be a priority in the use of 16 coastal management funds. 17

Department of State shall request in their annual legislative budget requests funding necessary to carry out the duties and responsibilities specified in this act. Funds for the rehabilitation of lighthouses should be allocated through matching grants-in-aid to state and local government agencies and to nonprofit organizations. The Department of Community Affairs may assist the Division of Historical Resources in projects to accomplish lighthouse identification, assessment, restoration, and interpretation.

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HOUSE SUMMARY Directs the Department of Community Affairs and the Department of State to conduct a study of lighthouses in the state and plan for the funding, restoration, and public access and use of the facilities.