Bill No. CS for CS for SB 556

Amendment No. ____ Barcode 935808

	CHAMBER ACTION
ĺ	Senate • House
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11	Senator Posey moved the following amendment:
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)
14	On page 51, between lines 17 and 18,
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16	insert:
17	Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 370.12, Florida
18	Statutes, is amended to read:
19	370.12 Marine animals; regulation
20	(2) PROTECTION OF MANATEES OR SEA COWS
21	(a) This subsection shall be known and may be cited as
22	the "Florida Manatee Sanctuary Act."
23	(b) The State of Florida is hereby declared to be a
24	refuge and sanctuary for the manatee, the "Florida state
25	marine mammal." The protections extended to and authorized on
26	behalf of the manatee by this act are independent of, and
27	therefore are not contingent upon, its status as a state or
28	federal listed species.
29	(c) Whenever the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
30	Commission is satisfied that the interest of science will be
31	subserved, and that the application for a permit to possess a
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29 30 manatee or sea cow (Trichechus manatus) is for a scientific or propagational purpose and should be granted, and after concurrence by the United States Department of the Interior, the commission may grant to any person making such application a special permit to possess a manatee or sea cow, which permit shall specify the exact number which shall be maintained in captivity.

- (d) Except as may be authorized by the terms of a valid state permit issued pursuant to paragraph (c) or by the terms of a valid federal permit, it is unlawful for any person at any time, by any means, or in any manner intentionally or negligently to annoy, molest, harass, or disturb or attempt to molest, harass, or disturb any manatee; injure or harm or attempt to injure or harm any manatee; capture or collect or attempt to capture or collect any manatee; pursue, hunt, wound, or kill or attempt to pursue, hunt, wound, or kill any manatee; or possess, literally or constructively, any manatee or any part of any manatee.
- (e) Any gun, net, trap, spear, harpoon, boat of any kind, aircraft, automobile of any kind, other motorized vehicle, chemical, explosive, electrical equipment, scuba or other subaquatic gear, or other instrument, device, or apparatus of any kind or description used in violation of any provision of paragraph (d) may be forfeited upon conviction. The foregoing provisions relating to seizure and forfeiture of vehicles, vessels, equipment, or supplies do not apply when such vehicles, vessels, equipment, or supplies are owned by, or titled in the name of, innocent parties; and such provisions shall not vitiate any valid lien, retain title contract, or chattel mortgage on such vehicles, vessels, 31 | equipment, or supplies if such lien, retain title contract, or

chattel mortgage is property of public record at the time of the seizure.

- (f)1. Except for emergency rules adopted under s.

 120.54, all proposed rules of the commission for which a

 notice of intended agency action is filed proposing to govern
 the speed and operation of motorboats for purposes of manatee
 protection shall be submitted to the counties in which the
 proposed rules will take effect for review by local rule
 review committees.
- 2. No less than 60 days prior to filing a notice of rule development in the Florida Administrative Weekly, as provided in s. 120.54(3)(a), the commission shall notify the counties for which a rule to regulate the speed and operation of motorboats for the protection of manatees is proposed. A county so notified shall establish a rule review committee or several counties may combine rule review committees.
- 3. The county commission of each county in which a rule to regulate the speed and operation of motorboats for the protection of manatees is proposed shall designate a rule review committee. The designated voting membership of the rule review committee must be comprised of waterway users, such as fishers, boaters, water skiers, other waterway users, as compared to the number of manatee and other environmental advocates. A county commission may designate an existing advisory group as the rule review committee. With regard to each committee, fifty percent of the voting members shall be manatee advocates and other environmental advocates, and fifty percent of the voting members shall be waterway users.
- 4. The county shall invite other state, federal, county, municipal, or local agency representatives to participate as nonvoting members of the local rule review

committee.

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5. The county shall provide logistical and administrative staff support to the local rule review committee and may request technical assistance from commission staff.

- 6. Each local rule review committee shall elect a chair and recording secretary from among its voting members.
- 7. Commission staff shall submit the proposed rule and supporting data used to develop the rule to the local rule review committees.
- 8. The local rule review committees shall have 60 days from the date of receipt of the proposed rule to submit a written report to commission members and staff. The local rule review committees may use supporting data supplied by the commission, as well as public testimony which may be collected by the committee, to develop the written report. The report may contain recommended changes to proposed manatee protection zones or speed zones, including a recommendation that no rule be adopted, if that is the decision of the committee.
- 9. Prior to filing a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Florida Administrative Weekly as provided in s. 120.54(3)(a), the commission staff shall provide a written response to the local rule review committee reports to the appropriate counties, to the commission members, and to the public upon request.
- 10. In conducting a review of the proposed manatee protection rule, the local rule review committees may address such factors as whether the best available scientific information supports the proposed rule, whether seasonal zones are warranted, and such other factors as may be necessary to balance manatee protection and public access to and use of the

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waters being regulated under the proposed rule.

- 11. The written reports submitted by the local rule review committees shall contain a majority opinion. If the majority opinion is not unanimous, a minority opinion shall also be included.
- 12. The members of the commission shall fully consider any timely submitted written report submitted by a local rule review committee prior to authorizing commission staff to move forward with proposed rulemaking and shall fully consider any timely submitted subsequent reports of the committee prior to adoption of a final rule. The written reports of the local rule review committees and the written responses of the commission staff shall be part of the rulemaking record and may be submitted as evidence regarding the committee's recommendations in any proceeding relating to a rule proposed or adopted pursuant to this subsection.
- 13. The commission is relieved of any obligations regarding the local rule review committee process created in this paragraph if a timely noticed county commission fails to timely designate the required rule review committee.
- (g)(f) In order to protect manatees or sea cows from harmful collisions with motorboats or from harassment, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is authorized, in addition to all other authority, to provide a permitting agency with comments shall adopt rules under chapter 120 regarding the expansion of existing, or the construction of new, marine facilities and mooring or docking slips, by the addition or construction of five or more powerboat slips. The commission shall adopt rules under chapter 120, and regulating the operation and speed of motorboat traffic-only where 31 | manatee sightings are frequent and the best available

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29 30 scientific information, as well as other available, relevant, and reliable information, which may include but is not limited to, manatee surveys, observations, available studies of food sources, and water depths, supports the conclusions that manatees it can be generally assumed, based on available scientific information, that they inhabit these areas on a regular or continuous basis:

- In Lee County: the entire Orange River, including the Tice Florida Power and Light Corporation discharge canal and adjoining waters of the Caloosahatchee River within 1 mile of the confluence of the Orange and Caloosahatchee Rivers.
- In Brevard County: those portions of the Indian River within three-fourths of a mile of the Orlando Utilities Commission Delespine power plant effluent and the Florida Power and Light Frontenac power plant effluents.
- In Indian River County: the discharge canals of the Vero Beach Municipal Power Plant and connecting waters within 1 1/4 miles thereof.
- In St. Lucie County: the discharge of the Henry D. King Municipal Electric Station and connecting waters within 1 mile thereof.
- In Palm Beach County: the discharges of the Florida Power and Light Riviera Beach power plant and connecting waters within 1 1/2 miles thereof.
- In Broward County: the discharge canal of the Florida Power and Light Port Everglades power plant and connecting waters within 1 1/2 miles thereof and the discharge canal of the Florida Power and Light Fort Lauderdale power plant and connecting waters within 2 miles thereof. For purposes of ensuring the physical safety of boaters in a 31 sometimes turbulent area, the area from the easternmost edge

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29 30 of the authorized navigation project of the intracoastal waterway east through the Port Everglades Inlet is excluded from this regulatory zone.

- In Citrus County: headwaters of the Crystal River, commonly referred to as King's Bay, and the Homosassa River.
- In Volusia County: Blue Springs Run and connecting waters of the St. Johns River within 1 mile of the confluence of Blue Springs and the St. Johns River; and Thompson Creek, Strickland Creek, Dodson Creek, and the Tomoka River.
- In Hillsborough County: that portion of the Alafia River from the main shipping channel in Tampa Bay to U.S. Highway 41.
- 10. In Sarasota County: the Venice Inlet and connecting waters within 1 mile thereof, including Lyons Bay, Donna Bay, Roberts Bay, and Hatchett Creek, excluding the waters of the intracoastal waterway and the right-of-way bordering the centerline of the intracoastal waterway.
- 11. In Collier County: within the Port of Islands, within section 9, township 52 south, range 28 east, and certain unsurveyed lands, all east-west canals and the north-south canals to the southerly extent of the intersecting east-west canals which lie southerly of the centerline of U.S. Highway 41.
- 12. In Manatee County: that portion of the Manatee River east of the west line of section 17, range 19 east, township 34 south; the Braden River south of the north line and east of the west line of section 29, range 18 east, township 34 south; Terra Ceia Bay and River, east of the west line of sections 26 and 35 of range 17 east, township 33 south, and east of the west line of section 2, range 17 east, 31 township 34 south; and Bishop Harbor east of the west line of

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section 13, range 17 east, township 33 south.

13. In <u>Miami-Dade County</u>: those portions of Black Creek lying south and east of the water control dam, including all boat basins and connecting canals within 1 mile of the dam.

(h)(g) The Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 regulating the operation and speed of motorboat traffic only where manatee sightings are frequent and the best available scientific information, as well as other available, relevant, and reliable information, which may include but is not limited to, manatee surveys, observations, available studies of food sources, and water depths, supports the conclusion that manatees it can be generally assumed that they inhabit these areas on a regular or continuous basis within that portion of the Indian River between the St. Lucie Inlet in Martin County and the Jupiter Inlet in Palm Beach County and. In addition, the commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 regulating the operation and speed of motorboat traffic only where manatee sightings are frequent and it can be generally assumed that they inhabit these areas on a regular or continuous basis within the Loxahatchee River in Palm Beach and Martin Counties, including the north and southwest forks thereof. A limited lane or corridor providing for reasonable motorboat speeds may be identified and designated within this area.

(i)(h) The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 regulating the operation and speed of motorboat traffic only where manatee sightings are frequent and the best available scientific information, as well as other available, relevant, and reliable information, which may include but is

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not limited to, manatee surveys, observations, available studies of food sources, and water depths, supports the conclusion that manatees it can be generally assumed that they inhabit these areas on a regular or continuous basis within the Withlacoochee River and its tributaries in Citrus and Levy Counties. The specific areas to be regulated include the Withlacoochee River and the U.S. 19 bridge westward to a line between U.S. Coast Guard markers number 33 and number 34 at the mouth of the river, including all side channels and coves along that portion of the river; Bennets' Creek from its beginning to its confluence with the Withlacoochee River; Bird's Creek from its beginning to its confluence with the Withlacoochee River; and the two dredged canal systems on the north side of the Withlacoochee River southwest of Yankeetown. A limited lane or corridor providing for reasonable motorboat speeds may be identified and designated within this area.

(j)(i) If any new power plant is constructed or other source of warm water discharge is discovered within the state which attracts a concentration of manatees or sea cows, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation commission is directed to adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 regulating the operation and speed of motorboat traffic within the area of such discharge. Such rules shall designate a zone which is sufficient in size, and which shall remain in effect for a sufficient period of time, to protect the manatees or sea cows.

 $\underline{(k)}(j)$ It is the intent of the Legislature through adoption of this paragraph to allow the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to post and regulate boat speeds only where the best available scientific information, as well as other available, relevant, and reliable information, which may include but is not limited to, manatee surveys, observations,

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29 30 available studies of food sources, and water depth, supports the conclusion that manatees manatee sightings are frequent and it can be generally assumed that they inhabit these areas on a periodic regular or continuous basis. It is not the intent of the Legislature to permit the commission to post and regulate boat speeds generally throughout the waters of the state in the above-described inlets, bays, rivers, creeks, thereby unduly interfering with the rights of fishers, boaters, and water skiers using the areas for recreational and commercial purposes. The Legislature further intends that the commission may identify and designate limited lanes or corridors providing for reasonable motorboat speeds within waters of the state whenever such lanes and corridors are consistent with manatee protection may be identified and designated within these areas.

(1) The commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 regulating the operation and speed of motorboat traffic all year around within Turkey Creek and its tributaries and within Manatee Cove in Brevard County. The specific areas to be regulated consist of:

1. A body of water which starts at Melbourne-Tillman Drainage District structure MS-1, section 35, township 28 south, range 37 east, running east to include all natural waters and tributaries of Turkey Creek, section 26, township 28 south, range 37 east, to the confluence of Turkey Creek and the Indian River, section 24, township 28 south, range 37 east, including all lagoon waters of the Indian River bordered on the west by Palm Bay Point, the north by Castaway Point, the east by the four immediate spoil islands, and the south by Cape Malabar, thence northward along the shoreline of the 31 Indian River to Palm Bay Point.

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2. A triangle-shaped body of water forming a cove (commonly referred to as Manatee Cove) on the east side of the Banana River, with northern boundaries beginning and running parallel to the east-west cement bulkhead located 870 feet south of SR 520 Relief Bridge in Cocoa Beach and with western boundaries running in line with the City of Cocoa Beach channel markers 121 and 127 and all waters east of these boundaries in section 34, township 24 south, range 37 east; the center coordinates of this cove are 28°20'14" north, 80°35'17" west.

(m) (m) (1) The commission shall promulgate regulations pursuant to chapter 120 relating to the operation and speed of motor boat traffic in port waters with due regard to the safety requirements of such traffic and the navigational hazards related to the movement of commercial vessels.

(n) The commission may designate by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 120 other portions of state waters where manatees are frequently sighted and the best available scientific information, as well as other available, relevant, and reliable information, which may include but is not limited to, manatee surveys, observations, available studies of food sources, and water depths, supports the conclusion that it can be assumed that manatees inhabit such waters periodically or continuously. Upon designation of such waters, the commission shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 to regulate motorboat speed and operation which are necessary to protect manatees from harmful collisions with motorboats and from harassment. The commission may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 to protect manatee habitat, such as seagrass beds, within such waters from destruction by boats or other human activity. 31 | Such rules shall not protect noxious aquatic plants subject to

control under s. 369.20.

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(o)(n) The commission may designate, by rule adopted pursuant to chapter 120, limited areas as a safe haven for manatees to rest, feed, reproduce, give birth, or nurse undisturbed by human activity. Access by motor boat to private residences, boat houses, and boat docks through these areas by residents, and their authorized guests, who must cross one of these areas to have water access to their property is permitted when the motorboat is operated at idle speed, no wake.

(p) (o) Except in the marked navigation channel of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway as defined in s. 327.02 and the area within 100 feet of such channel, a local government may regulate, by ordinance, motorboat speed and operation on waters within its jurisdiction where the best available scientific information, as well as other available, relevant, and reliable information, which may include but is not limited to, manatee surveys, observations, available studies of food sources, and water depths, supports the conclusion that manatees inhabit these areas on a regular basis where manatees are frequently sighted and can be generally assumed to inhabit periodically or continuously. However, such an ordinance may not take effect until it has been reviewed and approved by the commission. If the commission and a local government disagree on the provisions of an ordinance, a local manatee protection committee must be formed to review the technical data of the commission and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and to resolve conflicts regarding the ordinance. The manatee protection committee must be comprised of:

- 1. A representative of the commission;
- 2. A representative of the county;

3.	. A	representative	of	the	United	States	Fish	and
Wildlife	Serv	vice;						

- A representative of a local marine-related business;
 - 5. A representative of the Save the Manatee Club;
 - 6. A local fisher;
 - 7. An affected property owner; and
 - 8. A representative of the Florida Marine Patrol.

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> If local and state regulations are established for the same area, the more restrictive regulation shall prevail.

> (q) The commission shall evaluate the need for use of fenders to prevent crushing of manatees between vessels (100' or larger) and bulkheads or wharves in counties where manatees have been crushed by such vessels. For areas in counties where evidence indicates that manatees have been crushed between vessels and bulkheads or wharves, the commission shall:

- 1. Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 120 requiring use of fenders for construction of future bulkheads or wharves; and
- Implement a plan and time schedule to require retrofitting of existing bulkheads or wharves consistent with port bulkhead or wharf repair or replacement schedules.

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The fenders shall provide sufficient standoff from the bulkhead or wharf under maximum operational compression to ensure that manatees cannot be crushed between the vessel and the bulkhead or wharf.

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(r) Any violation of a restricted area established 31 by this subsection, or established by rule pursuant to chapter

120 or ordinance pursuant to this subsection, shall be considered a violation of the boating laws of this state and shall be charged on a uniform boating citation as provided in s. 327.74, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (s). Any person who refuses to post a bond or accept and sign a uniform boating citation shall, as provided in s. 327.73(3), be guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

 $\underline{(s)(r)}$ Except as otherwise provided in this paragraph, any person violating the provisions of this subsection or any rule or ordinance adopted pursuant to this subsection shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 370.021(1)(a) or (b).

- 1. Any person operating a vessel in excess of a posted speed limit shall be guilty of a civil infraction, punishable as provided in s. 327.73, except as provided in subparagraph 2.
- 2. This paragraph does not apply to persons violating restrictions governing "No Entry" zones or "Motorboat Prohibited" zones, who, if convicted, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable as provided in s. 370.021(1)(a) or (b), or, if such violation demonstrates blatant or willful action, may be found guilty of harassment as described in paragraph (d).
- (t)1. In order to protect manatees and manatee

 habitat, the counties identified in the Governor and Cabinet's

 October 1989 Policy Directive shall develop manatee protection

 plans consistent with commission criteria based upon "Schedule

 K" of the directive, and shall submit such protection plans

 for review and approval by the commission. Any manatee

 protection plans not submitted by July 1, 2004 and any plans

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not subsequently approved by the commission shall be addressed pursuant to subparagraph 2.

- 2. No later than January 1, 2005, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission shall designate any county it has identified as a substantial risk county for manatee mortality as a county that must complete a manatee protection plan by July 1, 2006. The commission is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to s. 120.54 for identifying substantial risk counties and establishing criteria for approval of manatee protection plans for counties so identified. Manatee protection plans shall include the following elements at a minimum: education about manatees and manatee habitat; boater education; an assessment of the need for new or revised manatee protection speed zones; local law enforcement; and a boat facility siting plan to address expansion of existing and the development of new marinas, boat ramps, and other multislip boating facilities.
- 3. Counties required to adopt manatee protection plans under this paragraph shall incorporate the boating facility siting element of those protection plans within their respective comprehensive plans. Counties that have already adopted manatee protection plans, or that adopt manatee protection plans by the effective date of this act, are not subject to the provisions of this paragraph.

Section 17. Subsection (6) is added to section 372.072, Florida Statutes, to read:

372.072 Endangered and Threatened Species Act. --

(6) MEASURABLE BIOLOGICAL GOALS.--No later than February 15, 2003, the commission, working in conjunction with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, shall develop 31 | measurable biological goals that define manatee recovery.

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These measurable biological goals shall be used by the commission in its development of management plans or work plans. In addition to other criteria, these measurable biological goals shall be used by the commission when evaluating existing and proposed protection rules, and in determining progress in achieving manatee recovery. Section 18. Subsection (2) of section 327.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 327.41 Uniform waterway regulatory markers.--(2) Any county or municipality which has been granted a restricted area designation, pursuant to s. 327.46, for a portion of the Florida Intracoastal Waterway within its jurisdiction or which has adopted a restricted area by ordinance pursuant to s. 327.22, s. 327.60, or s. 370.12(2)(p) s. 370.12(2)(o), or any other governmental entity which has legally established a restricted area, may apply to the commission for permission to place regulatory markers within the restricted area. Section 19. It is the intent of the Legislature that the commission request the necessary funding and staffing through a general revenue budget request to ensure that manatees receive the maximum protection possible. The Legislature recognizes that strong manatee protection depends upon consistently achieving a high degree of compliance with existing and future rules. The commission shall conduct standardized studies to determine levels of public compliance with manatee protection rules, and shall use the results of the studies, together with other relevant information, to

and boater education plans. Drawing upon information obtained

develop and implement strategic law enforcement initiatives

from the compliance studies and the implementation of

1	enforcement initiatives together with boater education plans,				
2	the commission shall identify any impediments in consistently				
3	achieving high levels of compliance, and adjust their				
4	enforcement and boater education efforts accordingly.				
5	Section 20. The Legislature intends that the				
6	provisions of this act may not be retroactively applied to				
7	manatee protection rules existing or in the process of being				
8	adopted on the effective date of this act unless the Fish and				
9	Wildlife Conservation Commission proposes to amend or revise				
10	such rules after this act takes effect. Proposed rules that				
11	are currently subject to an administrative challenge pending				
12	as of February 12, 2002, are not subject to the provisions of				
13	this act unless a court or administrative hearing officer				
14	finds such proposed rule to be invalid and all appeals have				
15	been exhausted. Once such rules become final, any revisions or				
16	amendments of such rules shall be conducted pursuant to the				
17	provisions of this act.				
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19	(Redesignate subsequent sections.)				
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22	========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==========				
23	And the title is amended as follows:				
24	On page 3, line 19, following the semicolon				
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26	insert:				
27	amending s. 370.12, F.S.; requiring notice to				
28	counties where manatee protection zones or				
29	manatee speed zones may be imposed by the Fish				
30	and Wildlife Conservation Commission; providing				
31	for establishment of local rule review				

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committees; providing duties and responsibilities of the counties, committees, and commission; providing for committee reports and recommendations; providing that written reports submitted to the commission by the committees and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff responses shall be part of the rulemaking record; clarifying the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's authority to provide comments to permitting agencies relating to the protection of manatees; revising the circumstances under which the commission may post and regulate motorboat speeds to protect manatees; requiring specified counties to develop manatee protection plans that are consistent with specified policy directive; providing the commission with rulemaking authority; amending s. 372.072, F.S.; requiring that the commission develop a measurable biological goal to define manatee recovery; requiring the commission to use the goal in developing management plans and work plans and for determining the progress of manatee recovery; amending s. 327.41, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing legislative intent regarding manatee protection; providing for compliance studies, enforcement initiatives, and boater education plans; requiring the commission to identify impediments to high rates of compliance; providing legislative intent that the

1	provisions of the act not be retroactively
2	applied except as otherwise provided; providing
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