A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to the Department of Agriculture and 3 Consumer Services; amending s. 14.24, F.S.; deleting 4 provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the 5 Florida Commission on the Status of Women for per diem and 6 travel expenses; amending s. 20.14, F.S.; deleting a 7 provision establishing the Division of Dairy within the 8 department; amending s. 215.981, F.S.; exempting certain 9 direct-support organizations and citizen support 10 organizations for the department from obtaining an 11 independent audit; requiring the department to establish accounting and financial management guidelines for such 12 organizations and annually review the operations and 13 14 finances of a selected number of such organizations; 15 amending s. 253.02, F.S.; providing for the grantee of 16 easements for electrical transmission to pay the lead manager of the state-owned lands or, when there is no lead 17 manager, the Department of Environmental Protection if 18 19 suitable replacement uplands cannot be identified; 20 amending s. 261.04, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring 21 the reimbursement of members of the Off-Highway Vehicle 22 Recreation Advisory Committee for per diem and travel 23 expenses; amending s. 472.007, F.S.; deleting provisions 24 requiring compensation of members and former members of 25 the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers for 26 performing certain duties and reimbursement of members for 27 per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 482.051, F.S.; 28 providing additional methods for pest control licensees to

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give certain emergency notice to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services before performing general fumigation; amending s. 482.071, F.S.; revising the minimum bodily injury and property damage insurance coverage required for pest control businesses; creating s. 482.072, F.S.; providing for licensure by the department of pest control customer contact centers; providing application requirements; providing for fees, licensure renewal, licensure expiration, transfer of licenses, and penalties; creating s. 482.157, F.S.; providing for limited certification of commercial wildlife trappers; providing requirements for certification, examination, and fees; limiting the scope of work permitted by certificateholders; clarifying that licensees who practice accepted pest control methods are immune from liability for violating laws prohibiting cruelty to animals; providing for applicability; amending s. 482.226, F.S.; revising the minimum financial responsibility requirements for licensees that perform wood-destroying organism inspections; amending s. 482.243, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the reimbursement of members of the Pest Control Enforcement Advisory Council for expenses; amending s. 487.041, F.S.; providing that registration, supplemental, and late fees related to the registration of pesticide brands with the department are nonrefundable; providing requirements for label revisions of pesticide brands; providing requirements for label revisions that must be reviewed by the United States Environmental

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Protection Agency; requiring payments of pesticide registration fees to be submitted electronically by a date certain; amending s. 487.0615, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the Pesticide Review Council for per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 500.70, F.S.; requiring certain persons who produce, harvest, pack, or repack tomatoes to register each location of a tomato farm, tomato greenhouse, tomato packinghouse, or tomato repacker by a specified date; authorizing the department to set a registration fee; requiring that funds collected be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund; amending ss. 527.22 and 559.9221, F.S.; deleting provisions authorizing the reimbursement of members of the Florida Propane Gas Education, Safety, and Research Council and the Motor Vehicle Repair Advisory Council for per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 570.07, F.S.; revising the powers and duties of the department relating to pollution control and the prevention of wildfires; amending s. 570.0705, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses of members of certain ad hoc advisory committees appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture; amending s. 570.074, F.S.; renaming the Office of Water Coordination and revising its policy jurisdiction; amending s. 570.18, F.S., to conform; amending s. 570.23, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the State Agricultural Advisory Council for per diem and travel expenses;

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amending s. 570.29, F.S.; deleting a provision establishing the Division of Dairy Industry within the department; amending ss. 570.38 and 570.382, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the Animal Industry Technical Council and the Arabian Horse Council for per diem and travel expenses; repealing ss. 570.40 and 570.41, F.S., relating to the powers and duties of the Division of Dairy within the department and the qualifications and duties of the division's director; amending s. 570.42, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the Dairy Industry Technical Council for per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 570.50, F.S.; requiring the Division of Food Safety within the department to inspect certain dairy farms and plants, perform certain analyses and tests, and enforce certain rules and provisions of law; amending s. 570.543, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the Florida Consumers' Council for per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 570.954, F.S.; removing the requirement that the department coordinate with and solicit the expertise of the state energy office when developing the farm-to-fuel initiative; amending ss. 571.28, 573.112, 576.091, 580.151, 581.186, and 586.161, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the Florida Agricultural Promotional Campaign Advisory Council, certain ad hoc advisory councils appointed to advise the department concerning the issuance of marketing orders, the

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Fertilizer Technical Council, the Commercial Feed Technical Council, the Endangered Plant Advisory Council, and the Honeybee Technical Council for per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 590.015, F.S.; revising and providing definitions for purposes of forest protection; amending s. 590.02, F.S.; authorizing forest operations administrators to be certified as forestry firefighters; providing the status of Selected Exempt Service to an aviation manager and the Division of Forestry's training coordinator; granting the department certain exclusive authority over the Florida Building Code; authorizing the department to retain, transfer, warehouse, bid, destroy, scrap, or dispose of certain surplus equipment and vehicles; authorizing the department to retain any moneys received from the disposition of certain state-owned equipment and vehicles; providing that moneys received may be used for the acquisition of certain exchange and surplus equipment and all necessary operating expenditures related to the equipment; requiring the department to maintain records of the accounts into which the money is deposited; granting the department exclusive authority to require and issue authorizations for broadcast burning, agricultural pile burning, and silvicultural pile burning; preempting other governmental entities from adopting laws, regulations, rules, or policies pertaining to broadcast burning, agricultural pile burning, or silvicultural pile burning unless an emergency order has been declared; authorizing the department to delegate its authority to a

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county or municipality to issue authorizations for the burning of yard trash and debris from land-clearing operations; amending s. 590.125, F.S.; revising and providing definitions relating to open burning authorizations; specifying purposes of certified prescribed burning; requiring the division's authorization for certified pile burning; providing pile burning requirements; limiting the liability of property owners or agents engaged in pile burning; providing for the certification of pile burners; providing penalties for violations by certified pile burners; requiring the division to adopt rules to regulate certified pile burning; revising notice requirements for wildfire hazard reduction treatments; requiring division approval of local government open burning authorization programs; providing program requirements; authorizing the division to resume administration of a local government's program under certain circumstances; providing penalties for violations of local government open burning requirements; amending s. 590.14, F.S.; authorizing a division employee to issue a notice of violation for any division rule; authorizing the division to impose an administrative fine for a violation of any division rule; providing penalties for certain violations; providing legislative intent; amending ss. 597.005 and 599.002, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the reimbursement of members of the Aquaculture Review Council and the Viticulture Advisory Council for per diem and travel expenses; amending s. 616.252, F.S.; providing

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for the appointment and term of a nonvoting youth member of the Florida State Fair Authority; deleting provisions requiring staggered terms; prohibiting the reimbursement of members of the Florida State Fair Authority for per diem and travel expenses; excluding the youth member from compensation for special or full-time service performed on behalf of the authority; amending s. 812.014, F.S.; providing penalties for the theft of bee colonies of registered beekeepers; amending s. 812.015, F.S.; redefining the term "farmer" to include a person who grows or produces honey; redefining the term "farm theft" to include the unlawful taking possession of equipment and associated materials used to grow or produce certain farm products; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 14.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 189 14.24 Florida Commission on the Status of Women.—
 - (3) Members of the commission shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses in accordance with s. 112.061.
 - Section 2. Paragraphs (g) through (m) of subsection (2) of section 20.14, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (f) through (l), respectively, and present paragraph (f) of that subsection is amended to read:

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CS/HB 7215 2011

20.14 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.-There is created a Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

- The following divisions of the Department of (2) Agriculture and Consumer Services are established:
 - (f) Dairy Industry.
- Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 215.981, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 215.981 Audits of state agency direct-support organizations and citizen support organizations. -
- Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), direct-support organizations and citizen support organizations for the Department of Environmental Protection or direct-support organizations and citizen support organizations for the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services that are not for profit and that have annual expenditures of less than \$300,000 are not required to have an independent audit. The respective department shall establish accounting and financial management guidelines for those organizations under its the department's jurisdiction. Each year, the respective department shall conduct operational and financial reviews of a selected number of direct-support organizations or citizen support organizations that which fall below the audit threshold established in this subsection.
- Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 253.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 222
- 223 253.02 Board of trustees; powers and duties.-
- 224 (2)

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(b) The authority of the board of trustees to grant easements for rights-of-way over, across, and upon uplands the title to which is vested in the board of trustees for the construction and operation of electric transmission and distribution facilities and related appurtenances is hereby confirmed. The board of trustees may delegate to the Secretary of Environmental Protection the authority to grant such easements on its behalf. All easements for rights-of-way over, across, and upon uplands the title to which is vested in the board of trustees for the construction and operation of electric transmission and distribution facilities and related appurtenances which are approved by the Secretary of Environmental Protection pursuant to the authority delegated by the board of trustees shall meet the following criteria:

- 1. Such easements shall not prevent the use of the stateowned uplands adjacent to the easement area for the purposes for which such lands were acquired and shall not unreasonably diminish the ecological, conservation, or recreational values of the state-owned uplands adjacent to the easement area.
- 2. There is no practical and prudent alternative to locating the linear facility and related appurtenances on state-owned upland. For purposes of this subparagraph, the test of practicality and prudence shall compare the social, economic, and environmental effects of the alternatives.
- 3. Appropriate steps are taken to minimize the impacts to state-owned uplands. Such steps may include:
- a. Siting of facilities so as to reduce impacts and minimize fragmentation of the overall state-owned parcel;

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b. Avoiding significant wildlife habitat, wetlands, or other valuable natural resources to the maximum extent practicable; or

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- c. Avoiding interference with active land management practices, such as prescribed burning.
- Except for easements granted as a part of a land exchange to accomplish a recreational or conservation benefit or other public purpose, in exchange for such easements, the grantee pays an amount equal to the market value of the interest acquired. In addition, for the initial grant of such easements only, the grantee shall provide additional compensation by vesting in the board of trustees fee simple title to other available uplands that are 1.5 times the size of the easement acquired by the grantee. The Secretary of Environmental Protection shall approve the property to be acquired on behalf of the board of trustees based on the geographic location in relation to the land proposed to be under easement and a determination that economic, ecological, and recreational value is at least equivalent to the value of the lands under proposed easement. Priority for replacement uplands shall be given to parcels identified as inholdings and additions to public lands and lands on a Florida Forever land acquisition list. However, if suitable replacement uplands cannot be identified, the grantee shall provide additional compensation for the initial grant of such easements only by paying to the lead manager of the state-owned lands or, when there is no lead manager, by paying to the department an amount equal to two times the current market value of the state-owned land or the highest and

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best use value at the time of purchase, whichever is greater. When determining such use of funds, priority shall be given to parcels identified as inholdings and additions to public lands and lands on a Florida Forever land acquisition list.

Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 261.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 261.04 Off-Highway Vehicle Recreation Advisory Committee; members; appointment.—
- (5) The members of the advisory committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses as provided in s. 112.061, while in the performance of their official duties.

Section 6. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 472.007, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), respectively, and present subsection (5) of that section is amended to read:

472.007 Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers.—There is created in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services the Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers.

(5) Unless otherwise provided by law, a board member or former board member serving on a probable cause panel must be compensated \$50 for each day in attendance at an official meeting of the board and for each day participating in any other business involving the board. The board shall adopt a rule defining the phrase "other business involving the board."

However, the phrase may not routinely be defined to include telephone conference calls. A board member is also entitled to reimbursement for expenses pursuant to s. 112.061. Travel out of

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state requires the prior approval of the commissioner or the commissioner's designee.

Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 482.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 482.051 Rules.—The department has authority to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this chapter. Prior to proposing the adoption of a rule, the department shall counsel with members of the pest control industry concerning the proposed rule. The department shall adopt rules for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of pest control employees and the general public which require:
- (4) That a licensee, before performing general fumigation, notify in writing the department inspector having jurisdiction over the location where the fumigation is to be performed, which notice must be received by the department inspector at least 24 hours before in advance of the fumigation and must contain such information as the department requires. However, in an authentic and verifiable emergency, when 24 hours' advance notice notification is not possible, advance notice may be given by telephone, facsimile, or any form of acceptable electronic communication, telegraph notice may be given; but such notice must be immediately followed by written confirmation providing the required information.
- Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 482.071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 482.071 Licenses.-

336 (4) A licensee may not operate a pest control business

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without carrying the required insurance coverage. Each person making application for a pest control business license or renewal thereof must furnish to the department a certificate of insurance that meets the requirements for minimum financial responsibility for bodily injury and property damage consisting of:

- (a) Bodily injury: \$250,000 per \$100,000 each person and \$500,000 per \$300,000 each occurrence; and property damage: \$250,000 per \$50,000 each occurrence and \$500,000 \$100,000 in the aggregate; or
- (b) Combined single-limit coverage: \$500,000 \$400,000 in the aggregate.
- Section 9. Section 482.072, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
 - 482.072 Pest control customer contact centers.—
- (1) The department may issue a license to a qualified business to operate a customer contact center, to solicit pest control business, or to provide services to customers for one or more business locations licensed under s. 482.071. A person may not operate a customer contact center for a pest control business that is not licensed by the department.
- (2) (a) Before operating a customer contact center, and biennially thereafter, on or before an anniversary date set by the department for a licensed customer contact center location, the pest control business must apply to the department for a license under this chapter, or a renewal thereof, for each customer contact center location. An application must be submitted in the format prescribed by the department.

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(b) The department shall establish a fee of at least \$600, but not more than \$1,000, for the issuance of a customer contact center license and a fee of at least \$600, but not more than \$1,000, for renewal of a customer contact center license.

However, until rules for renewal fees are adopted, the initial licensing fee and renewal fee are each \$600. The department shall establish a grace period, not to exceed 30 calendar days after the license's anniversary renewal date, and shall assess a late fee of \$150, in addition to the renewal fee, for a license that is renewed after the grace period.

- (c) A license automatically expires 60 calendar days after the anniversary renewal date unless the license is renewed before that date. When a license expires, it may be reinstated only upon reapplication and payment of the license renewal fee and a late renewal fee.
- (d) A license automatically expires if a licensee changes the business address of its customer contact center location.

 The department shall issue a new license upon payment of a \$250 fee. The new license automatically expires 60 calendar days after the anniversary renewal date of the former license unless the license is renewed before that date.
- (e) The department may not issue or renew a license to operate a customer contact center unless the pest control business licensees for which the customer contact center solicits business are owned in common by a person or business entity recognized by this state.
- (f) The department may deny a license or refuse to renew a license if the applicant or licensee, or one or more of the

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applicant's or licensee's directors, officers, owners, or general partners, are or have been directors, officers, owners, or general partners of a pest control business that meets the conditions in s. 482.071(2)(g).

- (g) Sections 482.091 and 482.152 do not apply to a person who solicits pest control services or provides customer service in a licensed customer contact center unless the person performs pest control as defined in s. 482.021(22)(a)-(d), executes a pest control contract, or accepts remuneration for such work.
- (h) Section 482.071(2)(e) does not apply to a license issued under this section.
- (3) (a) The department shall adopt rules establishing requirements and procedures for customer contact center recordkeeping and monitoring to ensure compliance with this section and rules adopted in accordance with this section.
 - (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section:
- 1. A customer contact center licensee is subject to disciplinary action under s. 482.161 for a violation of this section or a rule adopted under this section committed by a person who solicits pest control services or provides customer service in a customer contact center.
- 2. A pest control business licensee may be subject to disciplinary action under s. 482.161 for a violation of this section or a rule adopted under this section committed by a person who solicits pest control services or provides customer service in a customer contact center operated by a licensee if the licensee participates in the violation.
 - Section 10. Section 482.157, Florida Statutes, is created

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421 to read:

482.157 Limited certification for commercial wildlife management personnel.—

- (1) The department shall establish a limited certificate that authorizes a person who engages in the commercial trapping of wildlife to use nonchemical methods, including traps, glue boards, mechanical or electronic devices, and exclusionary techniques to control rodents as defined in s. 482.021(24).
- (2) The department shall issue a limited certificate to an applicant who:
- (a) Submits an application and examination fee of at least \$150, but not more than \$300, as prescribed by the department by rule;
- (b) Passes an examination administered by the department.

 The department shall provide the appropriate study materials for the examination and make the examination readily available to applicants in each county as necessary, but not less frequently than quarterly; and
- (c) Provides proof, including a certificate of insurance, that the applicant has met the minimum bodily injury and property damage insurance requirements in s. 482.071(4).
- (3) An application for recertification must be made annually and be accompanied by a recertification fee of at least \$75, but not more than \$150, as prescribed by the department by rule. The application must also be accompanied by proof of completion of the required 4 classroom hours of acceptable continuing education and the required proof of insurance. After a grace period not exceeding 30 calendar days after the

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recertification renewal date, the department shall assess a late fee of \$50 in addition to the renewal fee. A certificate automatically expires 180 days after the recertification date if the renewal fee has not been paid. After expiration, the department shall issue a new certificate only if the applicant successfully passes a reexamination and pays the examination fee and late fee.

- (4) Certification under this section does not authorize:
- (a) The use of pesticides or chemical substances, other than adhesive materials, to control rodents or other nuisance wildlife in, on, or under structures;
 - (b) Operation of a pest control business; or
- (c) Supervision of an uncertified person using nonchemical methods to control rodents.
- (5) A person who is licensed under this chapter and practices accepted methods of pest control is immune from liability under s. 828.12.
- (6) This chapter does not exempt a person from the rules, regulations, or orders of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.
- Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 482.226, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 482.226 Wood-destroying organism inspection report; notice of inspection or treatment; financial responsibility.—
- (6) Any licensee that performs wood-destroying organism inspections in accordance with subsection (1) must meet minimum financial responsibility in the form of errors and omissions (professional liability) insurance coverage or bond in an amount

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no less than \$500,000 \$50,000 in the aggregate and \$250,000 \$25,000 per occurrence, or demonstrate that the licensee has equity or net worth of no less than \$500,000 \$100,000 as determined by generally accepted accounting principles substantiated by a certified public accountant's review or certified audit. The licensee must show proof of meeting this requirement at the time of license application or renewal thereof.

Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 482.243, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

482.243 Pest Control Enforcement Advisory Council.-

(6) The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, <u>and</u> recordkeeping, and reimbursement of expenses of members of the council shall be in accordance with the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.

Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 487.041, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs (h), (i), and (j) are added to that subsection, to read:

487.041 Registration.

(1) (a) Effective January 1, 2009, each brand of pesticide, as defined in s. 487.021, which is distributed, sold, or offered for sale, except as provided in this section, within this state or delivered for transportation or transported in intrastate commerce or between points within this state through any point outside this state must be registered in the office of the department, and such registration shall be renewed biennially. Emergency exemptions from registration may be authorized in

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accordance with the rules of the department. The registrant shall file with the department a statement including:

- 1. The name, business mailing address, and street address of the registrant.
 - 2. The name of the brand of pesticide.

- 3. An ingredient statement and a complete <u>current</u> copy of the labeling accompanying the brand of the pesticide, which must conform to the registration, and a statement of all claims to be made for it, including directions for use and a guaranteed analysis showing the names and percentages by weight of each active ingredient, the total percentage of inert ingredients, and the names and percentages by weight of each "added ingredient."
- (h) All registration fees, including supplemental fees and late fees, are nonrefundable.
- (i) For any currently registered pesticide product brand that undergoes labeling revisions during the registration period, the registrant shall submit to the department a copy of the revised labeling along with a cover letter detailing such revisions before the sale or distribution in this state of the product brand with the revised labeling. If the labeling revisions require notification of an amendment review by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the registrant shall submit an additional copy of the labeling marked to identify those revisions.
- (j) Effective January 1, 2013, all payments of any pesticide registration fees, including supplemental fees and late fees, shall be submitted electronically using the

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department's Internet website for registration of pesticide product brands.

Section 14. Subsection (5) of section 487.0615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

487.0615 Pesticide Review Council.-

(5) Members of the council shall receive no compensation for their services, but are entitled to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

Section 15. Subsection (6) of section 500.70, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (7), and a new subsection (6) is added to that section to read:

500.70 Tomato food safety standards; inspections; penalties; tomato good agricultural practices; tomato best management practices.—

(6) Any person who produces, harvests, packs, or repacks tomatoes in this state and does not hold a food permit issued under s. 500.12 shall annually register each location of a tomato farm, tomato greenhouse, tomato packinghouse, or tomato repacker by August 1 on a form prescribed by the department. Any person who produces, harvests, packs, or repacks tomatoes at more than one location may submit one registration for all such locations but must provide the physical address of each location. The department may set by rule an annual registration fee not to exceed \$500. Moneys collected pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund.

Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 527.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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527.22 Florida Propane Gas Education, Safety, and Research Council established; membership; duties and responsibilities.—

- (5) Council members shall receive no compensation or honorarium for their services, and are authorized to receive only per diem and reimbursement for travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.
- Section 17. Subsection (3) of section 559.9221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 559.9221 Motor Vehicle Repair Advisory Council.—The Motor Vehicle Repair Advisory Council is created to advise and assist the department in carrying out this part.
- (3) The members of the council shall receive no compensation for their services, except that they may receive per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.
- Section 18. Subsection (28) of section 570.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 570.07 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; functions, powers, and duties.—The department shall have and exercise the following functions, powers, and duties:
- (28) For <u>purposes of pollution control and the prevention of wildfires purposes</u>, to regulate open burning connected with rural land-clearing, agricultural, or forestry operations, except fires for cold or frost protection.
- Section 19. Subsection (9) of section 570.0705, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 570.0705 Advisory committees.—From time to time the commissioner may appoint any advisory committee to assist the department with its duties and responsibilities.

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(9) Members of each advisory committee shall receive no compensation for their services, but shall be entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

Section 20. Section 570.074, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

570.074 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; energy and water policy coordination.—The commissioner may create an Office of Energy and Water Coordination under the supervision of a senior manager exempt under s. 110.205 in the Senior Management Service. The commissioner may designate the bureaus and positions in the various organizational divisions of the department that report to this office relating to any matter over which the department has jurisdiction in matters relating to energy and water policy affecting agriculture, application of such policies, and coordination of such matters with state and federal agencies.

Section 21. Section 570.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

570.18 Organization of departmental work.—In the assignment of functions to the 12 divisions of the department created in s. 570.29, the department shall retain within the Division of Administration, in addition to executive functions, those powers and duties enumerated in s. 570.30. The department shall organize the work of the other 11 divisions in such a way as to secure maximum efficiency in the conduct of the department. The divisions created in s. 570.29 are solely to make possible the definite placing of responsibility. The

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617 department shall be conducted as a unit in which every employee, 618 including each division director, is assigned a definite 619 workload, and there shall exist between division directors a 620 spirit of cooperative effort to accomplish the work of the 621 department. 622 Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 570.23, Florida 623 Statutes, is amended to read: 624 570.23 State Agricultural Advisory Council.-625 POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; 626 COMPENSATION. - The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and 627 recordkeeping of the State Agricultural Advisory Council, and 628 per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall 629 be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to 630 advisory committees established within the department. 631 Section 23. Subsections (7) through (12) of section 632 570.29, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (6) 633 through (11), respectively, and present subsection (6) is 634 amended to read: 635 570.29 Departmental divisions.—The department shall 636 include the following divisions: 637 (6) Dairy Industry. 638 Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 570.38, Florida 639 Statutes, is amended to read: 640 570.38 Animal Industry Technical Council.-POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; 641 COMPENSATION. - The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and 642

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recordkeeping of the Animal Industry Technical Council, and per

diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be

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governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.

- Section 25. Paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of section 570.382, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 570.382 Arabian horse racing; breeders' and stallion awards; Arabian Horse Council; horse registration fees; Florida Arabian Horse Racing Promotion Account.—
 - (3) ARABIAN HORSE COUNCIL.-

- (d) Members of the council shall receive no compensation for their services, except that they shall receive per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061 when actually engaged in the business of the council.
- Section 26. <u>Sections 570.40 and 570.41</u>, Florida Statutes, are repealed.
- Section 27. Subsection (2) of section 570.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 570.42 Dairy Industry Technical Council.-
- (2) POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; COMPENSATION.—The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Dairy Industry Technical Council, and per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.
- Section 28. Subsections (6) and (7) are added to section 570.50, Florida Statutes, to read:
- 570.50 Division of Food Safety; powers and duties.—The duties of the Division of Food Safety include, but are not limited to:

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(6) Inspecting dairy farms of the state, enforcing those provisions of chapter 502 that are authorized by the department and related to the supervision of milking operations, and enforcing rules adopted under such provisions.

- (7) Inspecting milk plants, milk product plants, and plants engaged in the manufacture and distribution of frozen desserts and frozen dessert mixes; analyzing and testing samples of milk, milk products, frozen desserts, and frozen dessert mixes collected by the division; and enforcing those provisions of chapters 502 and 503 that are authorized by the department.
- Section 29. Subsection (2) of section 570.543, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 570.543 Florida Consumers' Council.—The Florida Consumers' Council in the department is created to advise and assist the department in carrying out its duties.
- (2) POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; COMPENSATION.—The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Florida Consumers' Council, and per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department. The council members or chair may call no more than two meetings.
- Section 30. Subsection (3) of section 570.954, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 570.954 Farm-to-fuel initiative.
- (3) The department shall coordinate with and solicit the expertise of the state energy office within the Department of Environmental Protection when developing and implementing this

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701 initiative.

Section 31. Subsection (2) of section 571.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 571.28 Florida Agricultural Promotional Campaign Advisory Council.—
- (2) MEETINGS; POWERS AND DUTIES; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; COMPENSATION.—The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Florida Agricultural Promotional Campaign Advisory Council, and per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.
- Section 32. Subsection (6) of section 573.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 573.112 Advisory council.—
 - (6) No member or alternate member of the council shall receive a salary, but shall be reimbursed for travel expenses while on council business as provided in s. 112.061. The department may employ necessary personnel, including professional and technical services personnel, and fix their compensation and terms of employment and may incur expenses to be paid from moneys collected as herein provided.
 - Section 33. Subsection (3) of section 576.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 576.091 Fertilizer Technical Council.
 - (3) POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; REIMBURSEMENTS.—The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping, and reimbursement of expenses of members and

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729 alternate members of the council shall be in accordance with the 730 provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees 731 established within the department.

Section 34. Subsection (2) of section 580.151, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

580.151 Commercial Feed Technical Council.-

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- (2) POWERS AND DUTIES; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; COMPENSATION.—
 The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Commercial Feed Technical Council, and per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.
- Section 35. Subsection (2) of section 581.186, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 581.186 Endangered Plant Advisory Council; organization; meetings; powers and duties.—
- (2) POWERS AND DUTIES; MEETINGS; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; COMPENSATION.—The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Endangered Plant Advisory Council, and per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.
- Section 36. Subsection (3) of section 586.161, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 586.161 Honeybee Technical Council.-
- (3) MEETINGS; POWERS AND DUTIES; PROCEDURES; RECORDS; COMPENSATION.—The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Honeybee Technical Council, and per diem

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and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.

Section 37. Section 590.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 590.015 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:
- (1) "Broadcast burning" means the burning of agricultural or natural vegetation by allowing fire to move across a predetermined area of land. The term does not include the burning of vegetative debris that is piled or stacked.
- $\underline{(2)}$ "Division" means the Division of Forestry of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- (3) (2) "Fire management services" means presuppression fireline plowing, prescribed burning assistance, contract prescribed burning, prescribed and wildfire management training, and other activities associated with prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires.
- (4) (3) "Fuel reduction" means the application of techniques that reduce vegetative fuels, and may include prescribed burning, manual and mechanical clearing, and the use of herbicides.
- (5) "Open burning" means any outdoor fire or open combustion of material that produces visible emissions.
- (6)(4) "Wildfire" means any vegetative fire that threatens to destroy life, property, or natural resources.
- (7)(5) "Wild land" means any public or private managed or unmanaged forest, urban/interface, pasture or range land, recreation lands, or any other land at risk of wildfire.

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Section 38. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) and subsection (4) of section 590.02, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (9) and (10) are added to that section, to read:

590.02 Division powers, authority, and duties; liability; building structures; Florida Center for Wildfire and Forest Resources Management Training.—

- (1) The division has the following powers, authority, and duties:
- (d) To appoint center managers, forest area supervisors, forestry program administrators, a forest protection bureau chief, a forest protection assistant bureau chief, a field operations bureau chief, deputy chiefs of field operations, district managers, forest operations administrators, senior forest rangers, investigators, forest rangers, firefighter rotorcraft pilots, and other employees who may, at the division's discretion, be certified as forestry firefighters pursuant to s. 633.35(4). Other provisions of law notwithstanding, center managers, district managers, forest protection assistant bureau chief, aviation manager, the division's training coordinator, and deputy chiefs of field operations shall have Selected Exempt Service status in the state personnel designation;
- (4) (a) The department may build structures, notwithstanding chapters 216 and 255, not to exceed a cost of \$50,000 per structure from existing resources on forest lands, federal excess property, and unneeded existing structures. These structures must meet all applicable building codes.
 - (b) Notwithstanding s. 553.80(1), the department shall

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exclusively enforce the Florida Building Code as it pertains to wildfire and law enforcement facilities under the jurisdiction of the department.

- (9) (a) Notwithstanding ss. 273.055 and 287.16, the department may retain, transfer, warehouse, bid, destroy, scrap, or otherwise dispose of surplus equipment and vehicles that are used for wildland firefighting.
- (b) All money received from the disposition of state-owned equipment and vehicles that are used for wildland firefighting shall be retained by the department. Money received pursuant to this section is appropriated for and may be disbursed for the acquisition of exchange and surplus equipment used for wildland firefighting, and for all necessary operating expenditures related to such equipment, in the same fiscal year and the fiscal year following the disposition. The department shall maintain records of the accounts into which the money is deposited.
- (10) (a) The division has exclusive authority to require and issue authorizations for broadcast burning and agricultural and silvicultural pile burning. An agency, commission, department, county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state may not adopt laws, regulations, rules, or policies pertaining to broadcast burning or agricultural and silvicultural pile burning unless an emergency order is declared in accordance with s. 252.38(3).
- (b) The division may delegate to a county or municipality its authority, as delegated by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to ss. 403.061(28) and 403.081, to require

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and issue authorizations for the burning of yard trash and debris from land clearing operations in accordance with s. 590.125(6).

Section 39. Section 590.125, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

590.125 Open burning authorized by the division.-

- (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Certified pile burner" means an individual who successfully completes the division's pile burning certification program and possesses a valid pile burner certification number.

 "Prescribed burning" means the controlled application of fire in accordance with a written prescription for vegetative fuels under specified environmental conditions while following appropriate precautionary measures that ensure that the fire is confined to a predetermined area to accomplish the planned fire or land-management objectives.
- (b) "Certified prescribed burn manager" means an individual who successfully completes the <u>certified prescribed</u> burning <u>certification</u> program of the division and possesses a valid certification number.
 - (c) (d) "Extinguished" means that no spreading flame for:
- 1. Wildland Wild land burning or certified prescribed burning, and no spreading flames visible flame, smoke, or emissions for vegetative land-clearing debris burning, exist.
- 2. Vegetative land-clearing debris burning or pile burning, no visible flames exist.
- 3. Vegetative land-clearing debris burning or pile burning in an area designated as smoke sensitive by the division, no

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visible flames, smoke, or emissions exist.

(d) "Land-clearing operation" means the uprooting or clearing of vegetation in connection with the construction of buildings and rights-of-way, land development, and mineral operations. The term does not include the clearing of yard trash.

- (e) "Pile burning" means the burning of silvicultural, agricultural, or land-clearing and tree-cutting debris originating onsite, which is stacked together in a round or linear fashion, including, but not limited to, a windrow.
- of fire by broadcast burning in accordance with a written prescription for vegetative fuels under specified environmental conditions, while following appropriate precautionary measures that ensure that the fire is confined to a predetermined area to accomplish the planned fire or land-management objectives.
- $\underline{\text{(g)}}$ "Prescription" means a written plan establishing the criteria necessary for starting, controlling, and extinguishing a prescribed burn.
- (h) "Yard trash" means vegetative matter resulting from landscaping and yard maintenance operations and other such routine property cleanup activities. The term includes materials such as leaves, shrub trimmings, grass clippings, brush, and palm fronds.
 - (2) NONCERTIFIED BURNING.-
- (a) Persons may be authorized to burn wild land or vegetative land-clearing debris in accordance with this subsection if:

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1. There is specific consent of the landowner or his or her designee;

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- 2. Authorization has been obtained from the division or its designated agent before starting the burn;
- 3. There are adequate firebreaks at the burn site and sufficient personnel and firefighting equipment for the control of the fire;
- 4. The fire remains within the boundary of the authorized area;
- 5. An authorized person Someone is present at the burn site until the fire is extinguished;
 - 6. The division does not cancel the authorization; and
- 7. The division determines that air quality and fire danger are favorable for safe burning.
- (b) A person who burns wild land or vegetative landclearing debris in a manner that violates any requirement of this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (3) CERTIFIED PRESCRIBED BURNING; LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.—
- (a) The application of prescribed burning is a land management tool that benefits the safety of the public, the environment, and the economy of the state. The Legislature finds that:
- 1. Prescribed burning reduces vegetative fuels within wild land areas. Reduction of the fuel load reduces the risk and severity of wildfire, thereby reducing the threat of loss of life and property, particularly in urban areas.

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2. Most of Florida's natural communities require periodic fire for maintenance of their ecological integrity. Prescribed burning is essential to the perpetuation, restoration, and management of many plant and animal communities. Significant loss of the state's biological diversity will occur if fire is excluded from fire-dependent systems.

- 3. Forestland and rangeland constitute significant economic, biological, and aesthetic resources of statewide importance. Prescribed burning on forestland prepares sites for reforestation, removes undesirable competing vegetation, expedites nutrient cycling, and controls or eliminates certain forest pathogens. On rangeland, prescribed burning improves the quality and quantity of herbaceous vegetation necessary for livestock production.
- 4. The state purchased hundreds of thousands of acres of land for parks, preserves, wildlife management areas, forests, and other public purposes. The use of prescribed burning for management of public lands is essential to maintain the specific resource values for which these lands were acquired.
- 5. A public education program is necessary to make citizens and visitors aware of the public safety, resource, and economic benefits of prescribed burning.
- 6. Proper training in the use of prescribed burning is necessary to ensure maximum benefits and protection for the public.
- 7. As Florida's population continues to grow, pressures from liability issues and nuisance complaints inhibit the use of prescribed burning. Therefore, the division is urged to maximize

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the opportunities for prescribed burning conducted during its daytime and nighttime authorization process.

- (b) Certified prescribed burning pertains only to broadcast burning for purposes of silviculture, wildland fire hazard reduction, wildlife management, ecological maintenance and restoration, and range and pasture management. It must be conducted in accordance with this subsection and:
- 1. May be accomplished only when a certified prescribed burn manager is present on site with a copy of the prescription from ignition of the burn to its completion.
- 2. Requires that a written prescription be prepared before receiving authorization to burn from the division.
- 3. Requires that the specific consent of the landowner or his or her designee be obtained before requesting an authorization.
- 4. Requires that an authorization to burn be obtained from the division before igniting the burn.
- 5. Requires that there be adequate firebreaks at the burn site and sufficient personnel and firefighting equipment for the control of the fire.
- 6. Is considered to be in the public interest and does not constitute a public or private nuisance when conducted under applicable state air pollution statutes and rules.
- 7. Is considered to be a property right of the property owner if vegetative fuels are burned as required in this subsection.
- (c) Neither a property owner nor his or her agent is liable pursuant to s. 590.13 for damage or injury caused by the

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fire or resulting smoke or considered to be in violation of subsection (2) for burns conducted in accordance with this subsection unless gross negligence is proven.

- (d) Any certified burner who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (e) The division shall adopt rules for the use of prescribed burning and for certifying and decertifying certified prescribed burn managers based on their past experience, training, and record of compliance with this section.
 - (4) CERTIFIED PILE BURNING.-

- (a) Certified pile burning pertains to the disposal of piled, naturally occurring debris from an agricultural, silvicultural, or temporary land-clearing operation. A land-clearing operation is temporary if it operates for 6 months or less. Certified pile burning must be conducted in accordance with the following:
- 1. A certified pile burner must ensure, before ignition, that the piles are properly placed and that the content of the piles is conducive to efficient burning.
- 2. A certified pile burner must ensure that the piles are properly extinguished no later than 1 hour after sunset. If the burn is conducted in an area designated by the division as smoke sensitive, a certified pile burner must ensure that the piles are properly extinguished at least 1 hour before sunset.
- 3. A written pile burning plan must be prepared before receiving authorization from the division to burn.
 - 4. The specific consent of the landowner or his or her

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agent must be obtained before requesting authorization to burn.

5. An authorization to burn must be obtained from the division or its designated agent before igniting the burn.

- <u>6. There must be adequate firebreaks and sufficient</u>
 personnel and firefighting equipment at the burn site to control
 the fire.
- (a), the property owner and his or her agent are not liable under s. 590.13 for damage or injury caused by the fire or resulting smoke, and are not in violation of subsection (2), unless gross negligence is proven.
- (c) A certified pile burner who violates this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (d) The division shall adopt rules regulating certified pile burning. The rules shall include procedures and criteria for certifying and decertifying certified pile burn managers based on past experience, training, and record of compliance with this section.
- (5)(4) WILDFIRE HAZARD REDUCTION TREATMENT BY THE DIVISION.—The division may conduct fuel reduction initiatives, including, but not limited to, burning and mechanical and chemical treatment, on any area of wild land within the state which is reasonably determined to be in danger of wildfire in accordance with the following procedures:
- (a) Describe the areas that will receive fuels treatment to the affected local governmental entity.
 - (b) Publish a treatment notice, including a description of

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the area to be treated, in a conspicuous manner in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the area of the treatment not less than 10 days before the treatment.

- (c) Prepare, and send the county tax collector shall include with the annual tax statement, a notice to be sent to all landowners in each area township designated by the division as a wildfire hazard area. The notice must describe particularly the area to be treated and the tentative date or dates of the treatment and must list the reasons for and the expected benefits from the wildfire hazard reduction.
- (d) Consider any landowner objections to the fuels treatment of his or her property. The landowner may apply to the director of the division for a review of alternative methods of fuel reduction on the property. If the director or his or her designee does not resolve the landowner objection, the director shall convene a panel made up of the local forestry unit manager, the fire chief of the jurisdiction, and the affected county or city manager, or any of their designees. If the panel's recommendation is not acceptable to the landowner, the landowner may request further consideration by the Commissioner of Agriculture or his or her designee and shall thereafter be entitled to an administrative hearing pursuant to the provisions of chapter 120.
- (6) DIVISION APPROVAL OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPEN BURNING AUTHORIZATION PROGRAMS.—
- (a) A county or municipality may exercise the division's authority, if delegated by the division under this subsection, to issue authorizations for the burning of yard trash or debris

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from land-clearing operations. A county's or municipality's
existing or proposed open burning authorization program must:

- 1. Be approved by the division. The division may not approve a program if it fails to meet the requirements of subsections (2) and (4) and any rules adopted under those subsections.
- 2. Provide by ordinance or local law the requirements for obtaining and performing a burn authorization that complies with subsections (2) and (4) and any rules adopted under those subsections.
- 3. Provide for the enforcement of the program's requirements.
- 4. Provide financial, personnel, and other resources needed to carry out the program.
- (b) If the division determines that a county's or municipality's open burning authorization program does not comply with subsections (2) and (4) and any rules adopted under those subsections, the division shall require the county or municipality to take necessary corrective actions within 90 days after receiving notice from the division of its determination.
- 1. If the county or municipality fails to take the necessary corrective actions within the required period, the division shall resume administration of the open burning authorization program in the county or municipality and the county or municipality shall cease administration of its program.
- 2. Each county and municipality administering an open burning authorization program must cooperate with and assist the

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division in carrying out the division's powers, duties, and functions.

- 3. A person who violates the requirements of a county's or municipality's open burning authorization program, as provided by ordinance or local law enacted pursuant to this subsection, commits a violation of this chapter, punishable as provided in s. 590.14.
- (7) (5) DUTIES OF AGENCIES.—The Department of Education shall incorporate, where feasible and appropriate, the issues of fuels treatment, including prescribed burning, into its educational materials.
- Section 40. Section 590.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 590.14 Notice of violation; penalties; legislative intent.—
- (1) If a division employee determines that a person has violated chapter 589, or this chapter, or any rule adopted by the division to administer provisions of law conferring duties upon the division, the division employee he or she may issue a notice of violation indicating the statute or rule violated. This notice will be filed with the division and a copy forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement entity for further action if necessary.
- (2) In addition to any penalties provided by law, any person who causes a wildfire or permits any authorized fire to escape the boundaries of the authorization or to burn past the time of the authorization is liable for the payment of all reasonable costs and expenses incurred in suppressing the fire

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or \$150, whichever is greater. All costs and expenses incurred by the division shall be payable to the division. When such costs and expenses are not paid within 30 days after demand, the division may take proper legal proceedings for the collection of the costs and expenses. Those costs incurred by an agency acting at the division's direction are recoverable by that agency.

- (3) The department may also impose an administrative fine, not to exceed \$1,000 per violation of any section of chapter 589 or this chapter or violation of any rule adopted by the division to administer provisions of law conferring duties upon the division. The fine shall be based upon the degree of damage, the prior violation record of the person, and whether the person knowingly provided false information to obtain an authorization. The fines shall be deposited in the Incidental Trust Fund of the division.
- (4) A person commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, if the person:
- (a) Fails to comply with any rule or order adopted by the division to administer provisions of law conferring duties upon the division; or
- (b) Knowingly makes any false statement or representation in any application, record, plan, or other document required by this chapter or any rules adopted under this chapter.
- (5) It is the intent of the Legislature that a penalty imposed by a court under subsection (4) be of a severity that ensures immediate and continued compliance with this section.
 - (6)(4) The penalties provided in this section shall extend

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to both the actual violator and the person or persons, firm, or corporation causing, directing, or permitting the violation.

- Section 41. Subsection (4) of section 597.005, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 597.005 Aquaculture Review Council.-

- (4) EXPENSES; PER DIEM.—Members of the council shall receive expenses and per diem for travel, including attendance at meetings, as allowed state officers and employees pursuant to s. 112.061.
- Section 42. Subsection (2) of section 599.002, Florida
 1159 Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 599.002 Viticulture Advisory Council.-
 - (2) The meetings, powers and duties, procedures, and recordkeeping of the Viticulture Advisory Council, and per diem and reimbursement of expenses of council members, shall be governed by the provisions of s. 570.0705 relating to advisory committees established within the department.
 - Section 43. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (3) of section 616.252, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 - 616.252 Florida State Fair Authority; membership; number, terms, compensation.—
 - (1) (a) The authority shall be composed of 22 21 members. The Commissioner of Agriculture, or her or his designee, shall serve as a voting member. There shall also be a member who is the member of the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County representing the county commission district in which the Florida State Fairgrounds is located, who shall serve as a voting member. There shall also be an appointed youth member who

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is an active member of the Florida Future Farmers of America or a 4-H Club, who shall serve as a nonvoting member. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall appoint each other member of the authority. Each member appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner of Agriculture. The term of each member appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture shall be 4 years, but the term of the nonvoting youth member shall be for 1 year except, to provide staggered terms, 9 of the members shall be initially appointed for a 2-year term and 10 of the members shall be initially appointed for a 3-year term. Members may be appointed for more than one term. Any vacancy shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term pursuant to the method provided in this section for appointment. Six of the members may be from Hillsborough County. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall appoint and set the compensation of an executive director. The executive director shall serve at the pleasure of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

(3) Members of the authority <u>are shall</u> not <u>be</u> entitled to compensation for their services as members <u>and may not</u>, <u>but</u> <u>shall</u> be reimbursed for travel expenses. Except for the <u>nonvoting youth member</u>, each member <u>as provided in s. 112.061</u> and may be compensated for any special or full-time service performed in <u>the authority's its</u> behalf as officers or agents of the authority.

Section 44. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 812.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

812.014 Theft.-

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- 1206 (c) It is grand theft of the third degree and a felony of 1207 the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 1208 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the property stolen is:
 - 1. Valued at \$300 or more, but less than \$5,000.
 - 2. Valued at \$5,000 or more, but less than \$10,000.
 - 3. Valued at \$10,000 or more, but less than \$20,000.
 - 4. A will, codicil, or other testamentary instrument.
- 1213 5. A firearm.
 - 6. A motor vehicle, except as provided in paragraph (a).
- 7. Any commercially farmed animal, including any animal of the equine, bovine, or swine class, or other grazing animal; a bee colony of a registered beekeeper; and including aquaculture species raised at a certified aquaculture facility. If the property stolen is aquaculture species raised at a certified aquaculture facility, then a \$10,000 fine shall be imposed.
- 1221 8. Any fire extinguisher.
 - 9. Any amount of citrus fruit consisting of 2,000 or more individual pieces of fruit.
 - 10. Taken from a designated construction site identified by the posting of a sign as provided for in s. 810.09(2)(d).
 - 11. Any stop sign.
 - 12. Anhydrous ammonia.

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However, if the property is stolen within a county that is subject to a state of emergency declared by the Governor under chapter 252, the property is stolen after the declaration of emergency is made, and the perpetration of the theft is

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facilitated by conditions arising from the emergency, the offender commits a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the property is valued at \$5,000 or more, but less than \$10,000, as provided under subparagraph 2., or if the property is valued at \$10,000 or more, but less than \$20,000, as provided under subparagraph 3. As used in this paragraph, the term "conditions arising from the emergency" means civil unrest, power outages, curfews, voluntary or mandatory evacuations, or a reduction in the presence of or the response time for first responders or homeland security personnel. For purposes of sentencing under chapter 921, a felony offense that is reclassified under this paragraph is ranked one level above the ranking under s. 921.0022 or s. 921.0023 of the offense committed.

Section 45. Paragraphs (f) and (g) of subsection (1) of section 812.015, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

812.015 Retail and farm theft; transit fare evasion; mandatory fine; alternative punishment; detention and arrest; exemption from liability for false arrest; resisting arrest; penalties.—

(1) As used in this section:

(f) "Farmer" means a person who is engaging in the growing or producing of farm produce, milk products, honey, eggs, or meat, either part time or full time, for personal consumption or for sale and who is the owner or lessee of the land or a person designated in writing by the owner or lessee to act as her or his agent. No person defined as a farm labor contractor pursuant to s. 450.28 shall be designated to act as an agent for purposes

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(g) "Farm theft" means the unlawful taking possession of any items that are grown or produced on land owned, rented, or leased by another person. The term includes the unlawful taking possession of equipment and associated materials used to grow or produce farm products as defined in s. 823.14(3)(c).

Section 46. The sum of \$744,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer

Services from the Florida Forever Trust Fund for the 2011-2012

fiscal year in the Fixed Capital Outlay-Agency Managed-Land

Management appropriation category pursuant to s. 259.105(3)(f),

Florida Statutes.

Section 47. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.