A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to environmental regulation; amending 3 s. 125.022, F.S.; prohibiting a county from requiring 4 an applicant to obtain a permit or approval from any 5 state or federal agency as a condition of processing a 6 development permit under certain conditions; 7 authorizing a county to attach certain disclaimers to 8 the issuance of a development permit; amending s. 9 161.041, F.S.; providing requirements for application 10 for permits under the Beach and Shore Preservation 11 Act; prohibiting the department from issuing specified guidelines unless adopted by rule; requiring the 12 department to cite certain provisions in a request for 13 14 additional information; providing legislative intent 15 with respect to permitting for periodic maintenance of 16 certain beach nourishment and inlet management projects; directing the department to amend specified 17 rules relating to permitting for such projects; 18 19 providing conditions under which the department is authorized to issue such permits in advance of the 20 21 issuance of incidental take authorizations as provided 22 under the Endangered Species Act; amending s. 166.033, 23 F.S.; prohibiting a municipality from requiring an 24 applicant to obtain a permit or approval from any 25 state or federal agency as a condition of processing a 26 development permit under certain conditions; 27 authorizing a municipality to attach certain 28 disclaimers to the issuance of a development permit; Page 1 of 37

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29 amending s. 218.075, F.S.; providing for the reduction 30 or waiver of permit processing fees relating to 31 projects that serve a public purpose for certain 32 entities created by special act, local ordinance, or interlocal agreement; amending s. 258.397, F.S.; 33 34 providing an exemption from a showing of extreme 35 hardship relating to the sale, transfer, or lease of 36 sovereignty submerged lands in the Biscayne Bay 37 Aquatic Preserve for certain municipal applicants; 38 providing for additional dredging and filling 39 activities in the preserve; amending s. 373.026, F.S.; requiring the department to expand its use of 40 Internet-based self-certification services for 41 42 exemptions and permits issued by the department and 43 water management districts; amending s. 373.4141, 44 F.S.; reducing the time within which a permit must be approved, denied, or subject to notice of proposed 45 agency action; prohibiting a state agency or an agency 46 of the state from requiring additional permits or 47 approval from a local, state, or federal agency 48 49 without explicit authority; amending s. 373.4144, 50 F.S.; providing legislative intent with respect to the 51 coordination of regulatory duties among specified 52 state and federal agencies; encouraging expanded use 53 of the state programmatic general permit or regional general permits; providing for a voluntary state 54 55 programmatic general permit for certain dredge and 56 fill activities; amending s. 373.441, F.S.; requiring Page 2 of 37

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57 that certain counties or municipalities apply by a 58 specified date to the department or water management 59 district for authority to require certain permits; 60 providing that following such delegation, the department or district may not regulate activities 61 62 that are subject to the delegation; clarifying the 63 authority of local governments to adopt pollution 64 control programs under certain conditions; providing 65 applicability with respect to solid mineral mining; 66 amending s. 376.3071, F.S.; exempting program 67 deductibles, copayments, and certain assessment report requirements from expenditures under the low-scored 68 69 site initiative; amending s. 376.30715, F.S.; 70 providing that the transfer of a contaminated site 71 from an owner to a child of the owner or corporate 72 entity does not disqualify the site from the innocent 73 victim petroleum storage system restoration financial 74 assistance program; authorizing certain applicants to 75 reapply for financial assistance; amending s. 76 380.0657, F.S.; authorizing expedited permitting for 77 certain inland multimodal facilities that individually 78 or collectively will create a minimum number of jobs; 79 amending s. 381.0065, F.S.; limiting applicability of 80 the onsite sewage treatment and disposal system 81 evaluation and assessment program; amending s. 82 403.061, F.S.; requiring the department to establish 83 reasonable zones of mixing for discharges into 84 specified waters; providing that exceedance of certain Page 3 of 37

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85 groundwater standards does not create liability for 86 site cleanup; providing that exceedance of soil 87 cleanup target levels is not a basis for enforcement 88 or cleanup; amending s. 403.087, F.S.; revising 89 conditions under which the department is authorized to 90 revoke permits for sources of air and water pollution; 91 amending s. 403.1838, F.S.; revising the definition of 92 the term "financially disadvantaged small community" for the purposes of the Small Community Sewer 93 94 Construction Assistance Act; amending s. 403.7045, 95 F.S.; providing conditions under which sludge from an industrial waste treatment works is not solid waste; 96 97 amending s. 403.707, F.S.; exempting the disposal of 98 solid waste monitored by certain groundwater 99 monitoring plans from specific authorization; 100 extending the duration of all permits issued to solid 101 waste management facilities that meet specified 102 criteria; providing an exception; providing for 103 prorated permit fees; providing applicability; 104 amending s. 403.814, F.S.; providing for issuance of 105 general permits for the construction, alteration, and 106 maintenance of certain surface water management 107 systems without the action of the department or a 108 water management district; specifying conditions for 109 the general permits; amending s. 403.853, F.S.; 110 providing for the department, or a local county health 111 department designated by the department, to perform sanitary surveys for certain transient noncommunity 112 Page 4 of 37

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113 water systems; amending s. 403.973, F.S.; authorizing 114 expedited permitting for certain commercial or 115 industrial development projects that individually or collectively will create a minimum number of jobs; 116 117 providing for a project-specific memorandum of 118 agreement to apply to a project subject to expedited 119 permitting; clarifying the authority of the department 120 to enter final orders for the issuance of certain licenses; revising criteria for the review of certain 121 122 sites; amending s. 526.203, F.S.; revising the definitions of the terms "blended gasoline" and 123 124 "unblended gasoline"; defining the term "renewable 125 fuel"; authorizing the sale of unblended fuels for 126 certain uses; providing an effective date. 127 128 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 129 130 Section 1. Section 125.022, Florida Statutes, is amended 131 to read: 132 125.022 Development permits.-When a county denies an application for a development permit, the county shall give 133 written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a 134 135 citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule, statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit. 136 As used in this section, the term "development permit" has the 137 same meaning as in s. 163.3164. A county may not require as a 138 condition of processing a development permit that an applicant 139 140 obtain a permit or approval from any state or federal agency Page 5 of 37

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141	unless the agency has issued a notice of intent to deny the							
142	federal or state permit before the county action on the local							
143	development permit. Issuance of a development permit by a county							
144	does not in any way create any rights on the part of the							
145	applicant to obtain a permit from a state or federal agency and							
146	does not create any liability on the part of the county for							
147	issuance of the permit if the applicant fails to fulfill its							
148	legal obligations to obtain requisite approvals or fulfill the							
149	obligations imposed by a state or federal agency. A county may							
150	attach such a disclaimer to the issuance of a development							
151	permit, and may include a permit condition that all other							
152	applicable state or federal permits be obtained before							
153	commencement of the development. This section does not prohibit							
154	a county from providing information to an applicant regarding							
155	what other state or federal permits may apply.							
156	Section 2. Subsections (5), (6), and (7) are added to							
157	section 161.041, Florida Statutes, to read:							
158	161.041 Permits required							
159	(5) Application for permits shall be made to the							
160	department upon such terms and conditions as set forth by rule.							
161	(a) If the department requests additional information as							
162	part of the permit process, the department must cite applicable							
163	statutory and rule provisions that justify each item listed in							
164	the request for additional information.							
165	(b) The department may not issue guidelines that are							
166	enforceable as standards for beach management, inlet management,							
167	and other erosion control projects without adopting such							
168	guidelines by rule.							
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169	(6) The Legislature intends to simplify the permitting
170	process for the periodic maintenance of previously permitted and
171	constructed beach nourishment and inlet management projects
172	under the joint coastal permit process. A detailed review of a
173	previously permitted project is not required if there have been
174	no substantial changes in the scope of the project and past
175	performance of the project indicates that it has performed
176	according to design expectations. The department shall amend
177	chapters 62B-41 and 62B-49 of the Florida Administrative Code to
178	streamline the permitting process for periodic beach maintenance
179	projects and inlet sand bypassing activities.
180	(7) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the
181	department may issue a permit pursuant to this part in advance
182	of the issuance of an incidental take authorization as provided
183	under the Endangered Species Act and its implementing
184	regulations if the permit and authorization include a condition
185	requiring that authorized activities not begin until the
186	incidental take authorization is issued.
187	Section 3. Section 166.033, Florida Statutes, is amended
188	to read:
189	166.033 Development permitsWhen a municipality denies an
190	application for a development permit, the municipality shall
191	give written notice to the applicant. The notice must include a
192	citation to the applicable portions of an ordinance, rule,
193	statute, or other legal authority for the denial of the permit.
194	As used in this section, the term "development permit" has the
195	same meaning as in s. 163.3164. <u>A municipality may not require</u>
196	as a condition of processing a development permit that an
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197	applicant obtain a permit or approval from any state or federal							
198	agency unless the agency has issued a notice of intent to deny							
199	the federal or state permit before the municipal action on the							
200	local development permit. Issuance of a development permit by a							
201	municipality does not in any way create any right on the part of							
202	an applicant to obtain a permit from a state or federal agency							
203	and does not create any liability on the part of the							
204	municipality for issuance of the permit if the applicant fails							
205	to fulfill its legal obligations to obtain requisite approvals							
206	or fulfill the obligations imposed by a state or federal agency.							
207	A municipality may attach such a disclaimer to the issuance of							
208	development permits and may include a permit condition that all							
209	other applicable state or federal permits be obtained before							
210	commencement of the development. This section does not prohibit							
211	a municipality from providing information to an applicant							
212	regarding what other state or federal permits may apply.							
213	Section 4. Section 218.075, Florida Statutes, is amended							
214	to read:							
215	218.075 Reduction or waiver of permit processing fees							
216	Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Department of							
217	Environmental Protection and the water management districts							
218	shall reduce or waive permit processing fees for counties with a							
219	population of 50,000 or less on April 1, 1994, until such							
220	counties exceed a population of 75,000 and municipalities with a							
221	population of 25,000 or less, or <u>for an entity created by</u>							
222	special act, local ordinance, or interlocal agreement of such							
223	counties or municipalities, or for any county or municipality							
224	not included within a metropolitan statistical area. Fee							
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reductions or waivers shall be approved on the basis of fiscal hardship or environmental need for a particular project or activity. The governing body must certify that the cost of the permit processing fee is a fiscal hardship due to one of the following factors:

(1) Per capita taxable value is less than the statewideaverage for the current fiscal year;

(2) Percentage of assessed property value that is exempt
from ad valorem taxation is higher than the statewide average
for the current fiscal year;

(3) Any condition specified in s. 218.503(1) which results in the county or municipality being in a state of financial emergency;

(4) Ad valorem operating millage rate for the currentfiscal year is greater than 8 mills; or

(5) A financial condition that is documented in annual financial statements at the end of the current fiscal year and indicates an inability to pay the permit processing fee during that fiscal year.

244

The permit applicant must be the governing body of a county or municipality or a third party under contract with a county or municipality <u>or an entity created by special act, local</u> <u>ordinance, or interlocal agreement</u> and the project for which the fee reduction or waiver is sought must serve a public purpose. If a permit processing fee is reduced, the total fee shall not exceed \$100. Section 5. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of

2 Section 5. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of Page 9 of 37

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253 section 258.397, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 254 258.397 Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve.-

(3) AUTHORITY OF TRUSTEES.—The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund is authorized and directed to maintain the aquatic preserve hereby created pursuant and subject to the following provisions:

259 No further Sale, transfer, or lease of sovereignty (a) 260 submerged lands in the preserve may not shall be approved or 261 consummated by the board of trustees, except upon a showing of 262 extreme hardship on the part of the applicant and a 263 determination by the board of trustees that such sale, transfer, 264 or lease is in the public interest. A municipal applicant 265 proposing a project under paragraph (b) is exempt from showing 266 extreme hardship.

(b) No further Dredging or filling of submerged lands of the preserve <u>may not</u> shall be approved or tolerated by the board of trustees except:

Such minimum dredging and spoiling as may be authorized
 for public navigation projects or for such minimum dredging and
 spoiling as may be constituted as a public necessity or for
 preservation of the bay according to the expressed intent of
 this section.

275 2. Such other alteration of physical conditions, including
276 the placement of riprap, as may be necessary to enhance the
277 quality and utility of the preserve.

3. Such minimum dredging and filling as may be authorized
for the creation and maintenance of marinas, piers, and docks
and their attendant navigation channels and access roads. Such

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projects may only be authorized <u>only</u> upon a specific finding by the board of trustees that there is assurance that the project will be constructed and operated in a manner that will not adversely affect the water quality and utility of the preserve. This subparagraph <u>does</u> shall not authorize the connection of upland canals to the waters of the preserve.

4. Such dredging as is necessary for the purpose of eliminating conditions hazardous to the public health or for the purpose of eliminating stagnant waters, islands, and spoil banks, the dredging of which would enhance the aesthetic and environmental quality and utility of the preserve and be clearly in the public interest as determined by the board of trustees.

293 <u>5. Such dredging and filling as is necessary for the</u>
 294 creation of public waterfront promenades.

Any dredging or filling under this subsection or improvements under subsection (5) <u>may shall</u> be approved only after public notice as provided by s. 253.115.

299 Section 6. Subsection (10) is added to section 373.026, 300 Florida Statutes, to read:

301 373.026 General powers and duties of the department.-The 302 department, or its successor agency, shall be responsible for 303 the administration of this chapter at the state level. However, 304 it is the policy of the state that, to the greatest extent 305 possible, the department may enter into interagency or 306 interlocal agreements with any other state agency, any water 307 management district, or any local government conducting programs 308 related to or materially affecting the water resources of the

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309 state. All such agreements shall be subject to the provisions of 310 s. 373.046. In addition to its other powers and duties, the 311 department shall, to the greatest extent possible: 312 (10) Expand the use of Internet-based self-certification 313 services for appropriate exemptions and general permits issued 314 by the department and the water management districts, if such 315 expansion is economically feasible. In addition to expanding the 316 use of Internet-based self-certification services for 317 appropriate exemptions and general permits, the department and water management districts shall identify and develop general 318 319 permits for appropriate activities currently requiring 320 individual review which could be expedited through the use of 321 applicable professional certification. 322 Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 373.4141, Florida 323 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (4) is added to that 324 section, to read: 325 373.4141 Permits; processing.-326 (2) A permit shall be approved, or subject to a 327 notice of proposed agency action within 60 90 days after receipt 328 of the original application, the last item of timely requested 329 additional material, or the applicant's written request to begin 330 processing the permit application. 331 (4) A state agency or an agency of the state may not 332 require as a condition of approval for a permit or as an item to 333 complete a pending permit application that an applicant obtain a permit or approval from any other local, state, or federal 334 335 agency without explicit statutory authority to require such 336 permit or approval.

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337 Section 8. Section 373.4144, Florida Statutes, is amended 338 to read:

339

373.4144 Federal environmental permitting.-

340

(1) It is the intent of the Legislature to:

341 Facilitate coordination and a more efficient process (a) 342 of implementing regulatory duties and functions between the 343 Department of Environmental Protection, the water management 344 districts, the United States Army Corps of Engineers, the United 345 States Fish and Wildlife Service, the National Marine Fisheries 346 Service, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and other relevant 347 348 federal and state agencies.

349 Authorize the Department of Environmental Protection (b) 350 to obtain issuance by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, 351 pursuant to state and federal law and as set forth in this 352 section, of an expanded state programmatic general permit, or a 353 series of regional general permits, for categories of activities 354 in waters of the United States governed by the Clean Water Act 355 and in navigable waters under the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 356 which are similar in nature, which will cause only minimal 357 adverse environmental effects when performed separately, and 358 which will have only minimal cumulative adverse effects on the 359 environment. 360 (c) Use the mechanism of such a state general permit or 361 such regional general permits to eliminate overlapping federal 362 regulations and state rules that seek to protect the same 363

resource and to avoid duplication of permitting between the

364 <u>United States Army Corps of Engineers and the department for</u>

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365 <u>minor work located in waters of the United States, including</u> 366 <u>navigable waters, thus eliminating, in appropriate cases, the</u> 367 <u>need for a separate individual approval from the United States</u> 368 <u>Army Corps of Engineers while ensuring the most stringent</u> 369 protection of wetland resources.

370 Direct the department not to seek issuance of or take (d) 371 any action pursuant to any such permit or permits unless such 372 conditions are at least as protective of the environment and 373 natural resources as existing state law under this part and 374 federal law under the Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors 375 Act of 1899. The department is directed to develop, on or before 376 October 1, 2005, a mechanism or plan to consolidate, to the 377 maximum extent practicable, the federal and state wetland 378 permitting programs. It is the intent of the Legislature that 379 all dredge and fill activities impacting 10 acres or less of 380 wetlands or waters, including navigable waters, be processed by 381 the state as part of the environmental resource permitting 382 program implemented by the department and the water management 383 districts. The resulting mechanism or plan shall analyze and 384 propose the development of an expanded state programmatic 385 general permit program in conjunction with the United States 386 Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to s. 404 of the Clean Water 387 Act, Pub. L. No. 92-500, as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq., 388 and s. 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Alternatively, 389 or in combination with an expanded state programmatic general 390 permit, the mechanism or plan may propose the creation of a series of regional general permits issued by the United States 391 392 Army Corps of Engineers pursuant to the referenced statutes. Page 14 of 37

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393 of the regional general permits must be administered by the 394 department or the water management districts or their designees. 395 In order to effectuate efficient wetland permitting (2) 396 and avoid duplication, the department and water management 397 districts are authorized to implement a voluntary state 398 programmatic general permit for all dredge and fill activities 399 impacting 3 acres or less of wetlands or other surface waters, including navigable waters, subject to agreement with the United 400 401 States Army Corps of Engineers, if the general permit is at 402 least as protective of the environment and natural resources as 403 existing state law under this part and federal law under the 404 Clean Water Act and the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. The 405 department is directed to file with the Speaker of the House of 406 Representatives and the President of the Senate a report 407 proposing any required federal and state statutory changes that would be necessary to accomplish the directives listed in this 408 409 section and to coordinate with the Florida Congressional 410 Delegation on any necessary changes to federal law to implement 411 the directives.

412 Nothing in This section may not shall be construed to (3) 413 preclude the department from pursuing a series of regional 414 general permits for construction activities in wetlands or 415 surface waters or complete assumption of federal permitting 416 programs regulating the discharge of dredged or fill material 417 pursuant to s. 404 of the Clean Water Act, Pub. L. No. 92-500, as amended, 33 U.S.C. ss. 1251 et seq., and s. 10 of the Rivers 418 and Harbors Act of 1899, so long as the assumption encompasses 419 420 all dredge and fill activities in, on, or over jurisdictional

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421 wetlands or waters, including navigable waters, within the 422 state. 423 Section 9. Present subsections (3), (4), and (5) of 424 section 373.441, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections 425 (7), (8), and (9), respectively, and new subsections (3), (4), 426 (5), and (6) are added to that section to read: 427 373.441 Role of counties, municipalities, and local 428 pollution control programs in permit processing; delegation.-429 (3) A county or municipality having a population of 400,000 or more that implements a local pollution control 430 431 program regulating all or a portion of the wetlands or surface 432 waters throughout its geographic boundary must apply for 433 delegation of state environmental resource permitting authority 434 on or before January 1, 2014. If such a county or municipality fails to receive delegation of all or a portion of state 435 436 environmental resource permitting authority within 2 years after 437 submitting its application for delegation or by January 1, 2016, 438 at the latest, it may not require permits that in part or in 439 full are substantially similar to the requirements needed to 440 obtain an environmental resource permit. A county or 441 municipality that has received delegation before January 1, 442 2014, does not need to reapply. 443 The department is responsible for all delegations of (4) 444 state environmental resource permitting authority to local governments. The department must grant or deny an application 445 446 for delegation submitted by a county or municipality that meets the criteria in subsection (3) within 2 years after the receipt 447 448 of the application. If an application for delegation is denied,

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449	any available legal challenge to such denial shall toll the							
450	preemption deadline until resolution of the legal challenge.							
451	Upon delegation to a qualified local government, the department							
452	and water management district may not regulate the activities							
453	subject to the delegation within that jurisdiction.							
454	(5) This section does not prohibit or limit a local							
455	government that meets the criteria in subsection (3) from							
456	regulating wetlands or surface waters after January 1, 2014, if							
457	the local government receives delegation of all or a portion of							
458	state environmental resource permitting authority within 2 years							
459	after submitting its application for delegation.							
460	(6) Notwithstanding subsections (3), (4), and (5), this							
461	section does not apply to environmental resource permitting or							
462	reclamation applications for solid mineral mining and does not							
463	prohibit the application of local government regulations to any							
464	new solid mineral mine or any proposed addition to, change to,							
465	or expansion of an existing solid mineral mine.							
466	Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (11) of section							
467	376.3071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:							
468	376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes;							
469	funding							
470	(11)							
471	(b) Low-scored site initiativeNotwithstanding s.							
472	376.30711, any site with a priority ranking score of 10 points							
473	or less may voluntarily participate in the low-scored site							
474	initiative, whether or not the site is eligible for state							
475	restoration funding.							
476	1. To participate in the low-scored site initiative, the							
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477 responsible party or property owner must affirmatively478 demonstrate that the following conditions are met:

479 a. Upon reassessment pursuant to department rule, the site480 retains a priority ranking score of 10 points or less.

b. No excessively contaminated soil, as defined by
department rule, exists onsite as a result of a release of
petroleum products.

484 c. A minimum of 6 months of groundwater monitoring485 indicates that the plume is shrinking or stable.

d. The release of petroleum products at the site does not
adversely affect adjacent surface waters, including their
effects on human health and the environment.

e. The area of groundwater containing the petroleum
products' chemicals of concern is less than one-quarter acre and
is confined to the source property boundaries of the real
property on which the discharge originated.

f. Soils onsite that are subject to human exposure found between land surface and 2 feet below land surface meet the soil cleanup target levels established by department rule or human exposure is limited by appropriate institutional or engineering controls.

2. Upon affirmative demonstration of the conditions under subparagraph 1., the department shall issue a determination of "No Further Action." Such determination acknowledges that minimal contamination exists onsite and that such contamination is not a threat to human health or the environment. If no contamination is detected, the department may issue a site rehabilitation completion order.

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505 3. Sites that are eligible for state restoration funding 506 may receive payment of preapproved costs for the low-scored site 507 initiative as follows:

508 A responsible party or property owner may submit an a. 509 assessment plan designed to affirmatively demonstrate that the site meets the conditions under subparagraph 1. Notwithstanding 510 511 the priority ranking score of the site, the department may 512 preapprove the cost of the assessment pursuant to s. 376.30711, 513 including 6 months of groundwater monitoring, not to exceed \$30,000 for each site. The department may not pay the costs 514 associated with the establishment of institutional or 515 516 engineering controls.

517 b. The assessment work shall be completed no later than 6 518 months after the department issues its approval.

519 c. No more than \$10 million for the low-scored site 520 initiative <u>may</u> shall be encumbered from the Inland Protection 521 Trust Fund in any fiscal year. Funds shall be made available on 522 a first-come, first-served basis and shall be limited to 10 523 sites in each fiscal year for each responsible party or property 524 owner.

525 <u>d. Program deductibles, copayments, and the limited</u> 526 <u>contamination assessment report requirements under paragraph</u> 527 (13)(c) do not apply to expenditures under this paragraph.

528 Section 11. Section 376.30715, Florida Statutes, is 529 amended to read:

530 376.30715 Innocent victim petroleum storage system 531 restoration.—A contaminated site acquired by the current owner 532 prior to July 1, 1990, which has ceased operating as a petroleum

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533 storage or retail business prior to January 1, 1985, is eligible 534 for financial assistance pursuant to s. 376.305(6), 535 notwithstanding s. 376.305(6)(a). For purposes of this section, 536 the term "acquired" means the acquisition of title to the 537 property; however, a subsequent transfer of the property to a 538 spouse or child of the owner, a surviving spouse or child of the 539 owner in trust or free of trust, or a revocable trust created 540 for the benefit of the settlor, or a corporate entity created by the owner to hold title to the site does not disqualify the site 541 542 from financial assistance pursuant to s. 376.305(6) and 543 applicants previously denied coverage may reapply. Eligible 544 sites shall be ranked in accordance with s. 376.3071(5).

545 Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 380.0657, Florida 546 Statutes, is amended to read:

547 380.0657 Expedited permitting process for economic548 development projects.-

549 The Department of Environmental Protection and, as (1)550 appropriate, the water management districts created under 551 chapter 373 shall adopt programs to expedite the processing of 552 wetland resource and environmental resource permits for economic 553 development projects that have been identified by a municipality 554 or county as meeting the definition of target industry 555 businesses under s. 288.106, or any inland multimodal facility 556 receiving or sending cargo to or from Florida ports, with the 557 exception of those projects requiring approval by the Board of 558 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

559 Section 13. Paragraph (j) is added to subsection (5) of 560 section 381.0065, Florida Statutes, to read:

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561 381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; 562 regulation.-

563

(5) EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT.-

564 (j) This subsection only applies to owners of onsite
565 sewage treatment and disposal systems in a county in which the
566 board of county commissioners has adopted a resolution
567 subjecting owners to the requirements of the program and
568 submitted a copy of the resolution to the department.

569 Section 14. Subsection (11) of section 403.061, Florida 570 Statutes, is amended to read:

571 403.061 Department; powers and duties.—The department 572 shall have the power and the duty to control and prohibit 573 pollution of air and water in accordance with the law and rules 574 adopted and promulgated by it and, for this purpose, to:

575 Establish ambient air quality and water quality (11)576 standards for the state as a whole or for any part thereof, and 577 also standards for the abatement of excessive and unnecessary 578 noise. The department is authorized to establish reasonable 579 zones of mixing for discharges into waters. For existing 580 installations as defined by rule 62-520.200(10), Florida 581 Administrative Code, effective July 12, 2009, zones of discharge 582 to groundwater are authorized to a facility's or owner's 583 property boundary and extending to the base of a specifically designated aquifer or aquifers. Exceedance of primary and 584 585 secondary groundwater standards that occur within a zone of 586 discharge does not create liability pursuant to this chapter or 587 chapter 376 for site cleanup, and the exceedance of soil cleanup 588 target levels is not a basis for enforcement or site cleanup.

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(a) When a receiving body of water fails to meet a water
quality standard for pollutants set forth in department rules, a
steam electric generating plant discharge of pollutants that is
existing or licensed under this chapter on July 1, 1984, may
nevertheless be granted a mixing zone, provided that:

594 1. The standard would not be met in the water body in the 595 absence of the discharge;

596 2. The discharge is in compliance with all applicable597 technology-based effluent limitations;

598 3. The discharge does not cause a measurable increase in 599 the degree of noncompliance with the standard at the boundary of 600 the mixing zone; and

601 4. The discharge otherwise complies with the mixing zone602 provisions specified in department rules.

(b) No Mixing <u>zones</u> zone for point source discharges <u>are</u>
 <u>not</u> shall be permitted in Outstanding Florida Waters except for:

605 1. Sources that have received permits from the department 606 prior to April 1, 1982, or the date of designation, whichever is 607 later;

608 2. Blowdown from new power plants certified pursuant to609 the Florida Electrical Power Plant Siting Act;

3. Discharges of water necessary for water management
purposes which have been approved by the governing board of a
water management district and, if required by law, by the
secretary; and

614 4. The discharge of demineralization concentrate which has
615 been determined permittable under s. 403.0882 and which meets
616 the specific provisions of s. 403.0882(4)(a) and (b), if the

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617 proposed discharge is clearly in the public interest.

(c) The department, by rule, shall establish water quality criteria for wetlands which criteria give appropriate recognition to the water quality of such wetlands in their natural state.

622

Nothing in This act may not be shall be construed to invalidate any existing department rule relating to mixing zones. The department shall cooperate with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles in the development of regulations required by s. 316.272(1).

628

629 The department shall implement such programs in conjunction with 630 its other powers and duties and shall place special emphasis on 631 reducing and eliminating contamination that presents a threat to 632 humans, animals or plants, or to the environment.

633 Section 15. Subsection (7) of section 403.087, Florida634 Statutes, is amended to read:

635 403.087 Permits; general issuance; denial; revocation;
636 prohibition; penalty.-

637 (7) A permit issued pursuant to this section <u>does</u> shall
638 not become a vested right in the permittee. The department may
639 revoke any permit issued by it if it finds that the permitholder
640 has:

(a) Has Submitted false or inaccurate information in the
 his or her application for the permit;

(b) Has Violated law, department orders, rules, or
 regulations, or permit conditions;

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645 Has Failed to submit operational reports or other (C) 646 information required by department rule which directly relate to 647 the permit and has refused to correct or cure such violations 648 when requested to do so or regulation; or 649 Has Refused lawful inspection under s. 403.091 at the (d) 650 facility authorized by the permit. 651 Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 403.1838, Florida 652 Statutes, is amended to read: 653 403.1838 Small Community Sewer Construction Assistance 654 Act.-655 (2)The department shall use funds specifically 656 appropriated to award grants under this section to assist 657 financially disadvantaged small communities with their needs for 658 adequate sewer facilities. For purposes of this section, the 659 term "financially disadvantaged small community" means a 660 municipality that has with a population of 10,000  $\frac{7,500}{7,500}$  or fewer 661 less, according to the latest decennial census and a per capita 662 annual income less than the state per capita annual income as 663 determined by the United States Department of Commerce. 664 Section 17. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) of section 403.7045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 665 666 403.7045 Application of act and integration with other 667 acts.-668 The following wastes or activities shall not be (1)regulated pursuant to this act: 669 670 (f) Industrial byproducts, if: 671 1. A majority of the industrial byproducts are 672 demonstrated to be sold, used, or reused within 1 year. Page 24 of 37

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673 2. The industrial byproducts are not discharged, 674 deposited, injected, dumped, spilled, leaked, or placed upon any 675 land or water so that such industrial byproducts, or any 676 constituent thereof, may enter other lands or be emitted into 677 the air or discharged into any waters, including groundwaters, 678 or otherwise enter the environment such that a threat of 679 contamination in excess of applicable department standards and 680 criteria or a significant threat to public health is caused. 681 3. The industrial byproducts are not hazardous wastes as defined under s. 403.703 and rules adopted under this section. 682 683 684 Sludge from an industrial waste treatment works that meets the 685 exemption requirements of this paragraph is not solid waste as 686 defined in s. 403.703(32). 687 Section 18. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 403.707, 688 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 689 403.707 Permits.-690 (2) Except as provided in s. 403.722(6), a permit under 691 this section is not required for the following, if the activity 692 does not create a public nuisance or any condition adversely 693 affecting the environment or public health and does not violate 694 other state or local laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, or 695 orders: 696 Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from (a) their own activities on their own property, if such waste is 697 ordinary household waste from their residential property or is 698 rocks, soils, trees, tree remains, and other vegetative matter 699 700 that normally result from land development operations. Disposal

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of materials that could create a public nuisance or adversely affect the environment or public health, such as white goods; automotive materials, such as batteries and tires; petroleum products; pesticides; solvents; or hazardous substances, is not covered under this exemption.

(b) Storage in containers by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their property, leased or rented property, or property subject to a <u>homeowners'</u> homeowners or maintenance association for which the person contributes association assessments, if the solid waste in such containers is collected at least once a week.

(c) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from their own activities on their property, if the environmental effects of such disposal on groundwater and surface waters are:

715 1. Addressed or authorized by a site certification order 716 issued under part II or a permit issued by the department under 717 this chapter or rules adopted pursuant to this chapter; or

718 2. Addressed or authorized by, or exempted from the 719 requirement to obtain, a groundwater monitoring plan approved by 720 the department. If a facility has a permit authorizing disposal 721 activity, new areas where solid waste is being disposed of which 722 are monitored by an existing or modified groundwater monitoring 723 plan are not required to be specifically authorized in a permit 724 or other certification.

(d) Disposal by persons of solid waste resulting from
their own activities on their own property, if such disposal
occurred prior to October 1, 1988.

728

(e)

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Disposal of solid waste resulting from normal farming

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729 operations as defined by department rule. Polyethylene 730 agricultural plastic, damaged, nonsalvageable, untreated wood 731 pallets, and packing material that cannot be feasibly recycled, 732 which are used in connection with agricultural operations 733 related to the growing, harvesting, or maintenance of crops, may 734 be disposed of by open burning if a public nuisance or any 735 condition adversely affecting the environment or the public 736 health is not created by the open burning and state or federal 737 ambient air quality standards are not violated.

(f) The use of clean debris as fill material in any area.
However, this paragraph does not exempt any person from
obtaining any other required permits, and does not affect a
person's responsibility to dispose of clean debris appropriately
if it is not to be used as fill material.

(g) Compost operations that produce less than 50 cubic
yards of compost per year when the compost produced is used on
the property where the compost operation is located.

(3) (a) All applicable provisions of ss. 403.087 and
403.088, relating to permits, apply to the control of solid
waste management facilities.

749 Any permit issued to a solid waste management facility (b) 750 that is designed with a leachate control system that meets 751 department requirements shall be issued for a term of 20 years 752 unless the applicant requests a lesser permit term. Existing 753 permit fees for qualifying solid waste management facilities 754 shall be prorated to the permit term authorized by this section. 755 This paragraph applies to all qualifying solid waste management 756 facilities that apply for an operating or construction permit or

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757 renew an existing operating or construction permit on or after 758 July 1, 2012. 759 Section 19. Subsection (12) is added to section 403.814, 760 Florida Statutes, to read: 761 403.814 General permits; delegation.-762 (12) A general permit shall be granted for the 763 construction, alteration, and maintenance of a surface water 764 management system serving a total project area of up to 10 765 acres. The construction of such a system may proceed without any 766 agency action by the department or water management district if: 767 The total project area is less than 10 acres; (a) 768 (b) The total project area involves less than 2 acres of 769 impervious surface; 770 (c) No activities will impact wetlands or other surface 771 waters; 772 (d) No activities are conducted in, on, or over wetlands 773 or other surface waters; 774 Drainage facilities will not include pipes having (e) 775 diameters greater than 24 inches, or the hydraulic equivalent, 776 and will not use pumps in any manner; 777 The project is not part of a larger common plan, (f) 778 development, or sale; 779 (g) The project does not: 780 1. Cause adverse water quantity or flooding impacts to 781 receiving water and adjacent lands; 782 2. Cause adverse impacts to existing surface water storage 783 and conveyance capabilities; 784 3. Cause a violation of state water quality standards; or Page 28 of 37

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785 Cause an adverse impact to the maintenance of surface 4. 786 or ground water levels or surface water flows established 787 pursuant to s. 373.042 or a work of the district established 788 pursuant to s. 373.086; and 789 The surface water management system design plans are (h) 790 signed and sealed by a Florida registered professional who 791 attests that the system will perform and function as proposed 792 and has been designed in accordance with appropriate, generally 793 accepted performance standards and scientific principles. Section 20. Subsection (6) of section 403.853, Florida 794 795 Statutes, is amended to read: 796 403.853 Drinking water standards.-797 Upon the request of the owner or operator of a (6) 798 transient noncommunity water system using groundwater as a 799 source of supply and serving religious institutions or 800 businesses, other than restaurants or other public food service 801 establishments or religious institutions with school or day care 802 services, and using groundwater as a source of supply, the 803 department, or a local county health department designated by 804 the department, shall perform a sanitary survey of the facility. Upon receipt of satisfactory survey results according to 805 806 department criteria, the department shall reduce the 807 requirements of such owner or operator from monitoring and 808 reporting on a quarterly basis to performing these functions on 809 an annual basis. Any revised monitoring and reporting schedule approved by the department under this subsection shall apply 810 until such time as a violation of applicable state or federal 811 812 primary drinking water standards is determined by the system

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813 owner or operator, by the department, or by an agency designated 814 by the department, after a random or routine sanitary survey. 815 Certified operators are not required for transient noncommunity 816 water systems of the type and size covered by this subsection. 817 Any reports required of such system shall be limited to the minimum as required by federal law. When not contrary to the 818 819 provisions of federal law, the department may, upon request and 820 by rule, waive additional provisions of state drinking water 821 regulations for such systems.

822 Section 21. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) and 823 subsections (4), (5), (10), (11), (14), (15), and (18) of 824 section 403.973, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

825 403.973 Expedited permitting; amendments to comprehensive 826 plans.-

(3) (a) The secretary shall direct the creation of regional permit action teams for the purpose of expediting review of permit applications and local comprehensive plan amendments submitted by:

Businesses creating at least 50 jobs or a commercial or
 industrial development project that will be occupied by
 businesses that would individually or collectively create at
 <u>least 50 jobs;</u> or

2. Businesses creating at least 25 jobs if the project is located in an enterprise zone, or in a county having a population of fewer than 75,000 or in a county having a population of fewer than 125,000 which is contiguous to a county having a population of fewer than 75,000, as determined by the most recent decennial census, residing in incorporated and

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841 unincorporated areas of the county.

842 (4)The regional teams shall be established through the 843 execution of a project-specific memoranda of agreement developed 844 and executed by the applicant and the secretary, with input 845 solicited from the Department of Economic Opportunity and the 846 respective heads of the Department of Transportation and its 847 district offices, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer 848 Services, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, 849 appropriate regional planning councils, appropriate water management districts, and voluntarily participating 850 851 municipalities and counties. The memoranda of agreement should 852 also accommodate participation in this expedited process by 853 other local governments and federal agencies as circumstances 854 warrant.

855 (5) In order to facilitate local government's option to 856 participate in this expedited review process, the secretary 857 shall, in cooperation with local governments and participating 858 state agencies, create a standard form memorandum of agreement. 859 The standard form of the memorandum of agreement shall be used 860 only if the local government participates in the expedited 861 review process. In the absence of local government 862 participation, only the project-specific memorandum of agreement 863 executed pursuant to subsection (4) applies. A local government 864 shall hold a duly noticed public workshop to review and explain 865 to the public the expedited permitting process and the terms and conditions of the standard form memorandum of agreement. 866

867 (10) The memoranda of agreement may provide for the waiver868 or modification of procedural rules prescribing forms, fees,

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869 procedures, or time limits for the review or processing of 870 permit applications under the jurisdiction of those agencies 871 that are members of the regional permit action team party to the 872 memoranda of agreement. Notwithstanding any other provision of 873 law to the contrary, a memorandum of agreement must to the extent feasible provide for proceedings and hearings otherwise 874 875 held separately by the parties to the memorandum of agreement to 876 be combined into one proceeding or held jointly and at one 877 location. Such waivers or modifications are not authorized shall not be available for permit applications governed by federally 878 delegated or approved permitting programs, the requirements of 879 880 which would prohibit, or be inconsistent with, such a waiver or 881 modification.

(11) The standard form for memoranda of agreement shall include guidelines to be used in working with state, regional, and local permitting authorities. Guidelines may include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) A central contact point for filing permit applications
and local comprehensive plan amendments and for obtaining
information on permit and local comprehensive plan amendment
requirements.;

(b) Identification of the individual or individuals within
each respective agency who will be responsible for processing
the expedited permit application or local comprehensive plan
amendment for that agency.+

(c) A mandatory preapplication review process to reduce
 permitting conflicts by providing guidance to applicants
 regarding the permits needed from each agency and governmental

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897 entity, site planning and development, site suitability and 898 limitations, facility design, and steps the applicant can take 899 to ensure expeditious permit application and local comprehensive 900 plan amendment review. As a part of this process, the first 901 interagency meeting to discuss a project shall be held within 14 days after the secretary's determination that the project is 902 903 eligible for expedited review. Subsequent interagency meetings 904 may be scheduled to accommodate the needs of participating local 905 governments that are unable to meet public notice requirements 906 for executing a memorandum of agreement within this timeframe. 907 This accommodation may not exceed 45 days from the secretary's 908 determination that the project is eligible for expedited 909 review.+

910 (d) The preparation of a single coordinated project 911 description form and checklist and an agreement by state and 912 regional agencies to reduce the burden on an applicant to 913 provide duplicate information to multiple agencies.;

914 Establishment of a process for the adoption and review (e) 915 of any comprehensive plan amendment needed by any certified 916 project within 90 days after the submission of an application 917 for a comprehensive plan amendment. However, the memorandum of 918 agreement may not prevent affected persons as defined in s. 919 163.3184 from appealing or participating in this expedited plan 920 amendment process and any review or appeals of decisions made 921 under this paragraph.; and

922 (f) Additional incentives for an applicant who proposes a 923 project that provides a net ecosystem benefit.

924

(14) (a) Challenges to state agency action in the expedited Page 33 of 37

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925 permitting process for projects processed under this section are 926 subject to the summary hearing provisions of s. 120.574, except 927 that the administrative law judge's decision, as provided in s. 928 120.574(2)(f), shall be in the form of a recommended order and 929 do not constitute the final action of the state agency. In those 930 proceedings where the action of only one agency of the state 931 other than the Department of Environmental Protection is 932 challenged, the agency of the state shall issue the final order 933 within 45 working days after receipt of the administrative law judge's recommended order, and the recommended order shall 934 935 inform the parties of their right to file exceptions or 936 responses to the recommended order in accordance with the 937 uniform rules of procedure pursuant to s. 120.54. In those 938 proceedings where the actions of more than one agency of the 939 state are challenged, the Governor shall issue the final order 940 within 45 working days after receipt of the administrative law 941 judge's recommended order, and the recommended order shall 942 inform the parties of their right to file exceptions or responses to the recommended order in accordance with the 943 944 uniform rules of procedure pursuant to s. 120.54. For This 945 paragraph does not apply to the issuance of department licenses 946 required under any federally delegated or approved permit 947 program. In such instances, the department, and not the 948 Governor, shall enter the final order. The participating 949 agencies of the state may opt at the preliminary hearing 950 conference to allow the administrative law judge's decision to 951 constitute the final agency action. Projects identified in paragraph (3)(f) or challenges (b)

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953 to state agency action in the expedited permitting process for 954 establishment of a state-of-the-art biomedical research 955 institution and campus in this state by the grantee under s. 956 288.955 are subject to the same requirements as challenges 957 brought under paragraph (a), except that, notwithstanding s. 958 120.574, summary proceedings must be conducted within 30 days 959 after a party files the motion for summary hearing, regardless 960 of whether the parties agree to the summary proceeding.

961 (15) The Department of Economic Opportunity, working with the agencies providing cooperative assistance and input 962 963 regarding the memoranda of agreement, shall review sites 964 proposed for the location of facilities that the Department of 965 Economic Opportunity has certified to be eligible for the 966 Innovation Incentive Program under s. 288.1089. Within 20 days 967 after the request for the review by the Department of Economic 968 Opportunity, the agencies shall provide to the Department of 969 Economic Opportunity a statement as to each site's necessary 970 permits under local, state, and federal law and an 971 identification of significant permitting issues, which if 972 unresolved, may result in the denial of an agency permit or 973 approval or any significant delay caused by the permitting 974 process.

975 (18) The Department of Economic Opportunity, working with 976 the Rural Economic Development Initiative and the agencies 977 participating in the memoranda of agreement, shall provide 978 technical assistance in preparing permit applications and local 979 comprehensive plan amendments for counties having a population 980 of fewer than 75,000 residents, or counties having fewer than

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981 125,000 residents which are contiguous to counties having fewer 982 than 75,000 residents. Additional assistance may include, but 983 not be limited to, guidance in land development regulations and 984 permitting processes, working cooperatively with state, 985 regional, and local entities to identify areas within these 986 counties which may be suitable or adaptable for preclearance 987 review of specified types of land uses and other activities 988 requiring permits.

989 Section 22. Subsection (1) of section 526.203, Florida 990 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that 991 section, to read:

992

526.203 Renewable fuel standard.-

993

520.205 Kenewabie idei Standard.

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this act:

(a) "Blender," "importer," "terminal supplier," and"wholesaler" are defined as provided in s. 206.01.

(b) "Blended gasoline" means a mixture of 90 to 91 percent
gasoline and 9 to 10 percent fuel ethanol or other renewable
<u>fuel</u>, by volume, that meets the specifications as adopted by the
department. The fuel ethanol portion may be derived from any
agricultural source.

1001 (c) "Fuel ethanol" means an anhydrous denatured alcohol 1002 produced by the conversion of carbohydrates that meets the 1003 specifications as adopted by the department.

1004(d) "Renewable fuel" means a fuel produced from renewable1005biomass that is used to replace or reduce the quantity of fossil1006fuel present in a transportation fuel.

1007 (e) (d) "Unblended gasoline" means gasoline that has not 1008 been blended with fuel ethanol and that meets the specifications Page 36 of 37

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1009 as adopted by the department.

# 1010 (5) SALE OF UNBLENDED FUELS.-This section does not

# 1011 prohibit the sale of unblended fuels for the uses exempted under

# 1012 subsection (3).

1013

Section 23. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.