By the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation; and Senator Broxson

592-03013-17 20171438c1

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to aquifer replenishment; amending s. 403.087, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to include certain additional conditions on permits issued for projects that involve underground injection of reclaimed water or other water resources; providing applicability; creating s. 403.0878, F.S.; authorizing the department to adopt rules establishing voluntary facility classifications and associated operator licensing requirements for certain water treatment facilities; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 403.087, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.087 Permits; general issuance; denial; revocation; prohibition; penalty.—

(4) The department shall issue permits on such conditions as are necessary to effect the intent and purposes of this section. For projects that propose underground injection of reclaimed water or other water resources intended to protect, augment, or replenish the state's groundwater resources, the department may include conditions, such as the establishment of a zone of discharge for groundwater standards, and any associated institutional controls within the area, such as property interests, use restrictions and access controls, and well construction limitations. This subsection does not apply to

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those natural processes that introduce surface or stormwater into groundwater resources.

Section 2. Section 403.0878, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

The Legislature recognizes that communities are providing treatment for reclaimed water, stormwater, and other water resources as a means of promoting the availability of sufficient water for existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses and natural systems in accordance with chapter 373. The department may adopt rules establishing voluntary facility classifications and associated operator licensing requirements for such treatment facilities.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.