

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund;
 3 amending s. 375.041, F.S.; requiring a specified
 4 annual appropriation to the Florida Forever Trust
 5 Fund; deleting an obsolete provision; providing an
 6 effective date.

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

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 10 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 375.041, Florida
 11 Statutes, is amended to read:

12 375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

13 (3) Funds distributed into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund
 14 pursuant to s. 201.15 shall be applied:

15 (a) First, to pay debt service or to fund debt service
 16 reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with
 17 respect to Florida Forever bonds issued under s. 215.618; and
 18 pay debt service, provide reserves, and pay rebate obligations
 19 and other amounts due with respect to Everglades restoration
 20 bonds issued under s. 215.619; and

21 (b) Of the funds remaining after the payments required
 22 under paragraph (a), but before funds may be appropriated,
 23 pledged, or dedicated for other uses:

24 1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million
 25 shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that

26 | implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set
27 | forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning
28 | Project subject to Congressional authorization; the Long-Term
29 | Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades
30 | and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595.
31 | From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal
32 | year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida
33 | Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in
34 | s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed
35 | under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of
36 | the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated
37 | each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the
38 | planning, design, engineering, and construction of the
39 | Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s.
40 | 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project, the
41 | Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir Project, the Lake
42 | Okeechobee Watershed Project, the C-43 West Basin Storage
43 | Reservoir Project, the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, the
44 | Western Everglades Restoration Project, and the Picayune Strand
45 | Restoration Project. The Department of Environmental Protection
46 | and the South Florida Water Management District shall give
47 | preference to those Everglades restoration projects that reduce
48 | harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to the St.
49 | Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. For the
50 | purpose of performing the calculation provided in this

51 | subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to
52 | paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the
53 | purposes set forth under paragraph (b) shall be added to the
54 | amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph
55 | (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be
56 | reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to
57 | paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the
58 | purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

59 | 2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million
60 | shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration,
61 | protection, and management projects. For the purpose of
62 | performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the
63 | amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds
64 | issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under
65 | paragraph (b) shall be added to the amount remaining after the
66 | payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the
67 | distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal
68 | to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds
69 | issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this
70 | subparagraph.

71 | 3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually
72 | each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St.
73 | Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to
74 | the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be
75 | reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to

76 | paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the
77 | purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

78 | 4. The sum of \$64 million is appropriated and shall be
79 | transferred to the Everglades Trust Fund for the 2018-2019
80 | fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, for the EAA
81 | reservoir project pursuant to s. 373.4598. Any funds remaining
82 | in any fiscal year shall be made available only for Phase II of
83 | the C-51 reservoir project or projects identified in
84 | subparagraph 1. and must be used in accordance with laws
85 | relating to such projects. Any funds made available for such
86 | purposes in a fiscal year are in addition to the amount
87 | appropriated under subparagraph 1. This distribution shall be
88 | reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to
89 | paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the
90 | purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

91 | 5. The sum of \$100 million shall be appropriated annually
92 | to the Florida Forever Trust Fund ~~Notwithstanding subparagraph~~
93 | ~~3., for the 2017-2018 fiscal year, funds shall be appropriated~~
94 | ~~as provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subparagraph~~
95 | ~~expires July 1, 2018.~~

96 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.