A bill to be entitled
An act relating to the Environmental Protection Act;
amending s. 403.412, F.S.; prohibiting local
governments from recognizing or granting certain legal
rights to the natural environment or granting such
rights relating to the natural environment to a person
or political subdivision; providing construction;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 403.412,
Florida Statutes, to read:

403.412 Environmental Protection Act.—
(9)(a) A local government regulation, ordinance, code,
rule, comprehensive plan, charter, or any other provision of law
may not recognize or grant any legal rights to a plant, an
animal, a body of water, or any other part of the natural
environment that is not a person or political subdivision as
defined in s. 1.01 or grant such person or political subdivision
any specific rights relating to the natural environment not
otherwise authorized in general law or specifically granted in
the State Constitution.

(b) This subsection does not limit the power of an
adversely affected party to challenge the consistency of a

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
development order with a comprehensive plan as provided in s. 163.3215 or to file an action for injunctive relief to enforce the terms of a development agreement or challenge compliance of the agreement as provided in s. 163.3243.

(c) This subsection does not limit the standing of the Department of Legal Affairs, a political subdivision or municipality of the state, or a citizen of the state to maintain an action for injunctive relief as provided in this section.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.