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A bill to be entitled An act relating to agriculture; amending s. 163.3162, F.S.; defining the term "governmental entity"; prohibiting certain governmental entities from charging stormwater management assessments or fees on certain bona fide farm operations except under certain circumstances; providing for applicability; conforming provisions; amending s. 206.41, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "agricultural and aquacultural purposes" for purposes of the required refund of state taxes imposed on motor fuel used for such purposes; amending s. 316.515, F.S.; revising the Florida Uniform Traffic Control Law to authorize the use of citrus harvesting equipment and citrus fruit loaders to transport certain agricultural products and to authorize the use of certain motor vehicles to transport citrus; amending s. 479.11, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending s. 570.07, F.S.; revising the powers and duties of the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Services to enforce laws and rules relating to the use of commercial stock feeds; amending s. 580.036, F.S.; authorizing the department to adopt rules establishing certain standards for regulating commercial feed or feedstuff; requiring the department to consult with the Commercial Feed Technical Council in the development of such rules; amending s. 581.083, F.S.; prohibiting the cultivation of certain algae in plantings greater in size than 2

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contiguous acres; providing exceptions; providing certain exemptions from special permitting requirements; revising bonding requirements for the special permits; amending s. 599.004, F.S.; revising qualifications for a certified Florida Farm Winery; reenacting s. 561.24(5), F.S., relating to limitations on the issuance of wine distributor licenses and exporter registrations, to incorporate changes made by the act to s. 599.004, F.S., in a reference thereto; amending s. 604.50, F.S.; defining the term "farm sign"; providing an exemption from the Florida Building Code for farm signs; prohibiting farm signs located on public roads from violating certain standards; limiting the authority of local governments to enforce certain requirements with respect to farm signs; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (b), (c), and (i) of subsection (3) of section 163.3162, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.3162 Agricultural Lands and Practices.-

- (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Farm" has the same meaning is as provided defined in s. 823.14.
- (b) "Farm operation" has the same meaning is as provided defined in s. 823.14.

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- (c) "Farm product" means any plant, as defined in s. 581.011, or animal useful to humans and includes, but is not limited to, any product derived therefrom.
- (d) "Governmental entity" has the same meaning as provided in s. 164.1031. The term does not include a water control district established under chapter 298 or a special district created by special act for water management purposes.
- (3) DUPLICATION OF REGULATION.—Except as otherwise provided in this section and s. 487.051(2), and notwithstanding any other law, including any provision of chapter 125 or this chapter:
- assessment or fee for stormwater management on a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, if the farm operation has a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, environmental resource permit, or works-of-the-district permit or implements best management practices adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program.
- (c) For each governmental entity county that, before March 1, 2009, adopted a stormwater utility ordinance or resolution, adopted an ordinance or resolution establishing a municipal services benefit unit, or adopted a resolution stating the governmental entity's county's intent to use the uniform method of collection pursuant to s. 197.3632 for such stormwater ordinances, the governmental entity county may continue to

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charge an assessment or fee for stormwater management on a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural pursuant to s. 193.461, if the ordinance or resolution provides credits against the assessment or fee on a bona fide farm operation for the water quality or flood control benefit of:

- 1. The implementation of best management practices adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program;
- 2. The stormwater quality and quantity measures required as part of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, environmental resource permit, or works-of-the-district permit; or
- 3. The implementation of best management practices or alternative measures which the landowner demonstrates to the governmental entity county to be of equivalent or greater stormwater benefit than those provided by implementation of best management practices adopted as rules under chapter 120 by the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, or a water management district as part of a statewide or regional program, or stormwater quality and quantity measures required as part of a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, environmental resource permit, or works-of-the-district permit.
- (i) The provisions of this subsection that limit a governmental entity's county's authority to adopt or enforce any ordinance, regulation, rule, or policy, or to charge any

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assessment or fee for stormwater management, apply only to a bona fide farm operation as described in this subsection.

- Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 206.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 206.41 State taxes imposed on motor fuel.-
- 118 (4)

- (c)1. Any person who uses any motor fuel for agricultural, aquacultural, commercial fishing, or commercial aviation purposes on which fuel the tax imposed by paragraph (1)(e), paragraph (1)(f), or paragraph (1)(g) has been paid is entitled to a refund of such tax.
- 2. For the purposes of this paragraph, "agricultural and aquacultural purposes" means motor fuel used in any tractor, vehicle, or other farm equipment which is used exclusively on a farm or for processing farm products on the farm, and no part of which fuel is used in any vehicle or equipment driven or operated upon the public highways of this state. This restriction does not apply to the movement of a farm vehicle, or farm equipment, citrus harvesting equipment, or citrus fruit loaders between farms. The transporting of bees by water and the operating of equipment used in the apiary of a beekeeper shall be also deemed an agricultural purpose.
- 3. For the purposes of this paragraph, "commercial fishing and aquacultural purposes" means motor fuel used in the operation of boats, vessels, or equipment used exclusively for the taking of fish, crayfish, oysters, shrimp, or sponges from salt or fresh waters under the jurisdiction of the state for resale to the public, and no part of which fuel is used in any

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vehicle or equipment driven or operated upon the highways of this state; however, the term may in no way be construed to include fuel used for sport or pleasure fishing.

- 4. For the purposes of this paragraph, "commercial aviation purposes" means motor fuel used in the operation of aviation ground support vehicles or equipment, no part of which fuel is used in any vehicle or equipment driven or operated upon the public highways of this state.
- Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 316.515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 316.515 Maximum width, height, length.
- (5) IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY AND FARM EQUIPMENT;
 AGRICULTURAL TRAILERS; FORESTRY EQUIPMENT; SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—
- (a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, straight trucks, agricultural tractors, citrus harvesting equipment, citrus fruit loaders, and cotton module movers, not exceeding 50 feet in length, or any combination of up to and including three implements of husbandry, including the towing power unit, and any single agricultural trailer with a load thereon or any agricultural implements attached to a towing power unit, or a self-propelled agricultural implement or an agricultural tractor, is authorized for the purpose of transporting peanuts, grains, soybeans, citrus, cotton, hay, straw, or other perishable farm products from their point of production to the first point of change of custody or of long-term storage, and for the purpose of moving such tractors, movers, and implements from one point of agricultural production to another, by a person

engaged in the production of any such product or custom hauler, if such vehicle or combination of vehicles otherwise complies with this section. The Department of Transportation may issue overlength permits for cotton module movers greater than 50 feet but not more than 55 feet in overall length. Such vehicles shall be operated in accordance with all safety requirements prescribed by law and rules of the Department of Transportation.

- Section 4. Subsection (5) of section 479.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 479.11 Specified signs prohibited.—No sign shall be erected, used, operated, or maintained:
- (5) (a) Which displays intermittent lights not embodied in the sign, or any rotating or flashing light within 100 feet of the outside boundary of the right-of-way of any highway on the State Highway System, interstate highway system, or federal-aid primary highway system or which is illuminated in such a manner so as to cause glare or to impair the vision of motorists or otherwise distract motorists so as to interfere with the motorists' ability to safely operate their vehicles.
- (b) If the sign is on the premises of an establishment as provided in s. 479.16(1), the local government authority with jurisdiction over the location of the sign shall enforce the provisions of this section as provided in chapter 162 and this section.
- Section 5. Paragraph (c) of subsection (16) 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

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exercise the following functions, powers, and duties:

- (16) To enforce the state laws and rules relating to:
- (c) Registration, labeling, inspection, sale, <u>use</u>, composition, formulation, wholesale and retail distribution, and analysis of commercial stock feeds and registration, labeling, inspection, and analysis of commercial fertilizers;

In order to ensure uniform health and safety standards, the adoption of standards and fines in the subject areas of paragraphs (a)-(n) is expressly preempted to the state and the department. Any local government enforcing the subject areas of paragraphs (a)-(n) must use the standards and fines set forth in the pertinent statutes or any rules adopted by the department pursuant to those statutes.

Section 6. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (2) of section 580.036, Florida Statutes, to read:

580.036 Powers and duties.-

- (2) The department is authorized to adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to enforce the provisions of this chapter. These rules shall be consistent with the rules and standards of the United States Food and Drug Administration and the United States Department of Agriculture, when applicable, and shall include:
- (g) Establishing standards for the sale, use, and distribution of commercial feed or feedstuff to ensure usage that is consistent with animal safety and wellbeing and, to the extent that meat, poultry, and other animal products for human consumption may be affected by commercial feed or feedstuff, to

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ensure that these products are safe for human consumption. Such standards, if adopted, must be developed in consultation with the Commercial Feed Technical Council created under s. 580.151.

Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 581.083, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

581.083 Introduction or release of plant pests, noxious weeds, or organisms affecting plant life; cultivation of nonnative plants; special permit and security required.—

A person may not cultivate a nonnative plant, algae, or blue-green algae, including a genetically engineered plant, algae, or blue-green algae or a plant that has been introduced, for purposes of fuel production or purposes other than agriculture in plantings greater in size than 2 contiquous acres, except under a special permit issued by the department through the division, which is the sole agency responsible for issuing such special permits. A permit is not required to cultivate any plant or group of plants that, based on experience or research data, does not pose a threat to becoming an invasive species and is commonly grown in the state for the purpose of human food consumption, commercial feed, feedstuff, forage for livestock, nursery stock, or silviculture. The department may adopt rules exempting additional plants or groups of plants from the permitting requirements of this section if the department, after consultation with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida, determines that based on experience or research data, the nonnative plant, algae, or blue-green algae does not pose a threat to becoming an invasive species or a pest to plants or native fauna under normal growing

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conditions in the state Such a permit shall not be required if the department determines, in conjunction with the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of Florida, that the plant is not invasive and subsequently exempts the plant by rule.

- (a)1. Each application for a special permit must be accompanied by a fee as described in subsection (2) and proof that the applicant has obtained, on a form approved by the department, a bond in the form approved by the department and issued by a surety company admitted to do business in this state or a certificate of deposit, or other type of security adopted by rule of the department which provides a financial assurance of cost recovery for the removal of a planting. The application must include, on a form provided by the department, the name of the applicant and the applicant's address or the address of the applicant's principal place of business; a statement completely identifying the nonnative plant to be cultivated; and a statement of the estimated cost of removing and destroying the plant that is the subject of the special permit and the basis for calculating or determining that estimate. If the applicant is a corporation, partnership, or other business entity, the applicant must also provide in the application the name and address of each officer, partner, or managing agent. The applicant shall notify the department within 10 business days of any change of address or change in the principal place of business. The department shall mail all notices to the applicant's last known address.
 - 2. As used in this subsection, the term "certificate of

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deposit" means a certificate of deposit at any recognized financial institution doing business in the United States. The department may not accept a certificate of deposit in connection with the issuance of a special permit unless the issuing institution is properly insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Federal Savings and Loan Insurance Corporation.

- (b) Upon obtaining a permit, the permitholder may annually cultivate and maintain the nonnative plants as authorized by the special permit. If the permitholder ceases to maintain or cultivate the plants authorized by the special permit, if the permit expires, or if the permitholder ceases to abide by the conditions of the special permit, the permitholder shall immediately remove and destroy the plants that are subject to the permit, if any remain. The permitholder shall notify the department of the removal and destruction of the plants within 10 days after such event.
 - (c) If the department:
- 1. Determines that the permitholder is no longer maintaining or cultivating the plants subject to the special permit and has not removed and destroyed the plants authorized by the special permit;
- 2. Determines that the continued maintenance or cultivation of the plants presents an imminent danger to public health, safety, or welfare;
- 3. Determines that the permitholder has exceeded the conditions of the authorized special permit; or
 - 4. Receives a notice of cancellation of the surety bond,

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the department may issue an immediate final order, which shall be immediately appealable or enjoinable as provided by chapter 120, directing the permitholder to immediately remove and destroy the plants authorized to be cultivated under the special permit. A copy of the immediate final order <u>must shall</u> be mailed to the permitholder and to the surety company or financial institution that has provided security for the special permit, if applicable.

If, upon issuance by the department of an immediate final order to the permitholder, the permitholder fails to remove and destroy the plants subject to the special permit within 60 days after issuance of the order, or such shorter period as is designated in the order as public health, safety, or welfare requires, the department may enter the cultivated acreage and remove and destroy the plants that are the subject of the special permit. If the permitholder makes a written request to the department for an extension of time to remove and destroy the plants that demonstrates specific facts showing why the plants could not reasonably be removed and destroyed in the applicable timeframe, the department may extend the time for removing and destroying plants subject to a special permit. The reasonable costs and expenses incurred by the department for removing and destroying plants subject to a special permit shall be reimbursed to the department by the permitholder within 21 days after the date the permitholder and the surety company or financial institution are served a copy of the department's invoice for the costs and expenses incurred by the department to

remove and destroy the cultivated plants, along with a notice of administrative rights, unless the permitholder or the surety company or financial institution object to the reasonableness of the invoice. In the event of an objection, the permitholder or surety company or financial institution is entitled to an administrative proceeding as provided by chapter 120. Upon entry of a final order determining the reasonableness of the incurred costs and expenses, the permitholder has shall have 15 days after following service of the final order to reimburse the department. Failure of the permitholder to timely reimburse the department for the incurred costs and expenses entitles the department to reimbursement from the applicable bond or certificate of deposit.

(e) Each permitholder shall maintain for each separate growing location a bond or a certificate of deposit in an amount determined by the department, but not more less than 150 percent of the estimated cost of removing and destroying the cultivated plants. The bond or certificate of deposit may not exceed \$5,000 per acre, unless a higher amount is determined by the department to be necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare or unless an exemption is granted by the department based on conditions specified in the application which would preclude the department from incurring the cost of removing and destroying the cultivated plants and would prevent injury to the public health, safety, and welfare. The aggregate liability of the surety company or financial institution to all persons for all breaches of the conditions of the bond or certificate of deposit may not exceed the amount of the bond or certificate of

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deposit. The original bond or certificate of deposit required by this subsection shall be filed with the department. A surety company shall give the department 30 days' written notice of cancellation, by certified mail, in order to cancel a bond. Cancellation of a bond does not relieve a surety company of liability for paying to the department all costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred for removing and destroying the permitted plants covered by an immediate final order authorized under paragraph (c). A bond or certificate of deposit must be provided or assigned in the exact name in which an applicant applies for a special permit. The penal sum of the bond or certificate of deposit to be furnished to the department by a permitholder in the amount specified in this paragraph must guarantee payment of the costs and expenses incurred or to be incurred by the department for removing and destroying the plants cultivated under the issued special permit. The bond or certificate of deposit assignment or agreement must be upon a form prescribed or approved by the department and must be conditioned to secure the faithful accounting for and payment of all costs and expenses incurred by the department for removing and destroying all plants cultivated under the special permit. The bond or certificate of deposit assignment or agreement must include terms binding the instrument to the Commissioner of Agriculture. Such certificate of deposit shall be presented with an assignment of the permitholder's rights in the certificate in favor of the Commissioner of Agriculture on a form prescribed by the department and with a letter from the issuing institution acknowledging that the assignment has been properly recorded on

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the books of the issuing institution and will be honored by the issuing institution. Such assignment is irrevocable while a special permit is in effect and for an additional period of 6 months after termination of the special permit if operations to remove and destroy the permitted plants are not continuing and if the department's invoice remains unpaid by the permitholder under the issued immediate final order. If operations to remove and destroy the plants are pending, the assignment remains in effect until all plants are removed and destroyed and the department's invoice has been paid. The bond or certificate of deposit may be released by the assignee of the surety company or financial institution to the permitholder, or to the permitholder's successors, assignee, or heirs, if operations to remove and destroy the permitted plants are not pending and no invoice remains unpaid at the conclusion of 6 months after the last effective date of the special permit. The department may not accept a certificate of deposit that contains any provision that would give to any person any prior rights or claim on the proceeds or principal of such certificate of deposit. The department shall determine by rule whether an annual bond or certificate of deposit will be required. The amount of such bond or certificate of deposit shall be increased, upon order of the department, at any time if the department finds such increase to be warranted by the cultivating operations of the permitholder. In the same manner, the amount of such bond or certificate of deposit may be adjusted downward or removed decreased when a decrease in the cultivating operations of the permitholder occurs or when research or practical field knowledge and

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observations indicate a low risk of invasiveness by the nonnative species warrants such decrease. Factors that may be considered for change include multiple years or cycles of successful large-scale contained cultivation; no observation of plant, algae, or blue-green algae escape from managed areas; or science-based evidence that established or approved adjusted cultivation practices provide a similar level of containment of the nonnative plant, algae, or blue-green algae. This paragraph applies to any bond or certificate of deposit, regardless of the anniversary date of its issuance, expiration, or renewal.

(f) In order to carry out the purposes of this subsection, the department or its agents may require from any permitholder verified statements of the cultivated acreage subject to the special permit and may review the permitholder's business or cultivation records at her or his place of business during normal business hours in order to determine the acreage cultivated. The failure of a permitholder to furnish such statement, to make such records available, or to make and deliver a new or additional bond or certificate of deposit is cause for suspension of the special permit. If the department finds such failure to be willful, the special permit may be revoked.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 599.004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

599.004 Florida Farm Winery Program; registration; logo; fees.—

(1) The Florida Farm Winery Program is established within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Under this

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program, a winery may qualify as a tourist attraction only if it is registered with and certified by the department as a Florida Farm Winery. A winery may not claim to be certified unless it has received written approval from the department.

- (a) To qualify as a certified Florida Farm Winery, a winery must shall meet the following standards:
- 1. Produce or sell less than 250,000 gallons of wine annually.
- 2. Maintain a minimum of $\underline{5}$ 10 acres of owned or managed \underline{land} vineyards in Florida which produces commodities used in the production of wine.
- 3. Be open to the public for tours, tastings, and sales at least 30 hours each week.
- 4. Make annual application to the department for recognition as a Florida Farm Winery, on forms provided by the department.
 - 5. Pay an annual application and registration fee of \$100.
- Section 9. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 599.004, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 561.24, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:
- 561.24 Licensing manufacturers as distributors or registered exporters prohibited; procedure for issuance and renewal of distributors' licenses and exporters' registrations.—
- (5) Notwithstanding any of the provisions of the foregoing subsections, any corporation which holds a license as a distributor on June 3, 1947, shall be entitled to a renewal thereof, provided such corporation complies with all of the

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provisions of the Beverage Law of Florida, as amended, and of this section and establishes by satisfactory evidence to the division that, during the 6-month period next preceding its application for such renewal, of the total volume of its sales of spirituous liquors, in either dollars or quantity, not more than 40 percent of such spirituous liquors sold by it, in either dollars or quantity, were manufactured, rectified, or distilled by any corporation with which the applicant is affiliated, directly or indirectly, including any corporation which owns or controls in any way any stock in the applicant corporation or any corporation which is a subsidiary or affiliate of the corporation so owning stock in the applicant corporation. Any manufacturer of wine holding a license as a distributor on the effective date of this act shall be entitled to a renewal of such license notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1)-(5). This section does not apply to any winery qualifying as a certified Florida Farm Winery under s. 599.004.

Section 10. Section 604.50, Florida Statutes, is reordered and amended to read:

604.50 Nonresidential farm buildings; and farm fences; farm signs.—

(1) Notwithstanding any <u>provision of other</u> law to the contrary, any nonresidential farm building, or farm fence, or <u>farm sign</u> is exempt from the Florida Building Code and any county or municipal code or fee, except for code provisions implementing local, state, or federal floodplain management regulations. <u>A farm sign located on a public road may not be erected</u>, used, operated, or maintained in a manner that violates

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506	(8)	<u>.</u>									

- (2) As used in this section, the term:
- $\underline{\text{(a)}}$ (b) "Farm" has the same meaning as provided in s. 823.14.
- (b) "Farm sign" means a sign erected, used, or maintained on a farm by the owner or lessee of the farm which relates solely to farm produce, merchandise, or services sold, produced, manufactured, or furnished on the farm.
- (c) (a) "Nonresidential farm building" means any temporary or permanent building or support structure that is classified as a nonresidential farm building on a farm under s. 553.73(9)(c) or that is used primarily for agricultural purposes, is located on land that is an integral part of a farm operation or is classified as agricultural land under s. 193.461, and is not intended to be used as a residential dwelling. The term may include, but is not limited to, a barn, greenhouse, shade house, farm office, storage building, or poultry house.
- Section 11. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.

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