CS/HB 1347 2020

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Apalachicola Environmental

Stewardship Act; providing a short title; amending s.

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

259.105, F.S.; requiring specified funds from the Florida Forever Fund to be spent on projects within the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern

for specified purposes; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. This act may be referred to as "The Apalachicola Environmental Stewardship Act."

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.105 The Florida Forever Act.-

- (3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the proceeds of cash payments or bonds issued pursuant to this section shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:
- (b) Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental Protection for the acquisition of lands and capital project expenditures described in this section. Of the proceeds distributed pursuant to this paragraph, it is the intent of the

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

CS/HB 1347 2020

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

Legislature that an increased priority be given to those acquisitions which achieve a combination of conservation goals, including protecting Florida's water resources and natural groundwater recharge. At a minimum, 3 percent, and no more than 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during the time of acquisition which meet land management planning activities necessary for public access. Beginning in the 2017-2018 fiscal year and continuing through the 2026-2027 fiscal year, at least \$5 million of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on land acquisition within the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern as authorized pursuant to s. 259.045. Beginning in the 2020-2021 fiscal year and continuing through the 2024-2025 fiscal year, at least \$5 million of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall be spent on projects that improve surface water and groundwater quality within the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern as designated under s. 380.0555, including the construction and replacement of stormwater management facilities and central sewage collection facilities, installation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, direct and indirect potable reuse, and other water quality and water supply projects.

Page 2 of 2

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.