265192

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 02/17/2009

The Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation (Detert) recommended the following:

## Senate Substitute for Amendment (879040) (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 373.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.62 Water conservation; automatic sprinkler systems.-

(1) Any person who operates purchases and installs an automatic irrigation <del>lawn sprinkler</del> system <del>after May 1, 1991,</del> shall properly install, and must maintain, and operate

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technology, a rain sensor device or switch that inhibits or interrupts operation of will override the landscape irrigation cycle of the sprinkler system during periods of sufficient moisture when adequate rainfall has occurred.

- (2) A licensed contractor who performs work on an automatic irrigation system shall test for correct operation of each device or switch on that system. If such devices or switches are not installed in the system or are not in proper operating condition, the contractor shall install new ones or repair the existing ones and confirm that each device or switch is in proper operating condition before completing any other work on the system.
- (3) The department shall create a model ordinance by January 15, 2010, to be adopted and enforced by governments in order to administer this section. Such ordinance shall, at a minimum, provide:
- (a) Penalties for the operators of automatic sprinkler systems who do not properly install and maintain the required devices or switches and penalties for licensed contractors who do not comply with this section. The minimum penalties shall be \$50 for a first offense, \$100 for a second offense, and \$250 for a third or subsequent offense.
- (b) Requirements for licensed contractors to report systems that are not in compliance with this section to the appropriate authority.
- (c) Penalties for licensed contractors who do not comply with the provisions of this section, which shall be \$50 for a first offense, \$100 for a second offense, and \$250 for a third or subsequent offense.



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For the purpose of this section, regular maintenance and replacement of worn or broken technology that interrupts or inhibits operation of the device or switch is not considered a violation of this section if such repairs are conducted within a reasonable time.

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(4) Local governments shall adopt the model ordinance no later than October 1, 2010.

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(5) Funds generated by such penalties shall be retained by the local government to further water-conservation activities.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

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======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= And the title is amended as follows:

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Delete lines 9 - 10

56 57 and insert:

systems; requiring the adoption of model ordinances; providing penalties

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