

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; amending s. 381.0065, F.S.; delaying the effective date of the prohibition against the land application of septage from onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; directing the Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with various entities and individuals, to examine potential options for safe and appropriate disposal or reuse of septage and submit a report to the Governor and Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 381.0065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; regulation.—

(6) LAND APPLICATION OF SEPTAGE PROHIBITED.—Effective January 1, 2018 ~~2016~~, the land application of septage from onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems is prohibited.

Section 2. (1) The Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of Agricultural Water Policy, the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, local governments, and

27 individuals representing domestic wastewater treatment  
28 professionals, solid waste management professionals, onsite  
29 wastewater treatment professionals, waste-energy development  
30 facilities, private utilities, investor-owned utilities, and  
31 environmental organizations, shall examine and report on the  
32 potential options for safely and appropriately disposing or  
33 reusing septage, including, but not limited to:

34 (a) An inventory of domestic wastewater utilities and  
35 solid waste management facilities that are known to receive and  
36 treat septage.

37 (b) An inventory of permitted septage land application  
38 sites.

39 (c) An analysis of the nutrient concentrations of septage.

40 (d) An analysis of the technical limitations for domestic  
41 wastewater utilities and solid waste management facilities to  
42 receive and treat septage.

43 (e) The transfer of regulatory authority over the land  
44 application of septage from the Department of Health to the  
45 Department of Environmental Protection, including the  
46 environmental benefits of applying the nutrient management plan  
47 requirements, setbacks, site-monitoring requirements, and  
48 provisions of chapter 62-640, Florida Administrative Code, to  
49 the land application of septage.

50 (2) The Department of Environmental Protection shall  
51 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the  
52 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the

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53 | House of Representatives by March 1, 2015.

54 |       Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.