

By Senator Hays

11-00739C-14

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to land conservation; limiting the  
3           ability of the state, a county, or a municipality to  
4           purchase land outside an area of critical concern for  
5           conservation purposes; providing criteria; exempting  
6           purchases of land if they are approved by referendum  
7           or if the land is purchased for active public use;  
8           providing an effective date.

9  
10   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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12           Section 1. (1) The state may purchase land outside an area  
13 of critical state concern for conservation purposes only if:

14           (a) An accurate inventory, conducted within the last 12  
15 months, of state-owned property is made publicly available;

16           (b) Sufficient funds are approved in the state's annual  
17 budget for the restoration and maintenance of existing  
18 properties;

19           (c) A description of the current use of existing properties  
20 and an analysis of proposed future uses of existing properties  
21 are made publicly available; and

22           (d) An analysis by the state describing the annual cost of  
23 restoration and maintenance of the proposed land purchase is  
24 completed and made publicly available, and funds sufficient to  
25 restore and maintain the proposed land purchase are approved and  
26 set aside.

27           (2) A purchase of land by the state is exempt from this  
28 section if it is approved by referendum or if the land is  
29 purchased for active public use.

11-00739C-14

20141398\_\_

30           Section 2. (1) A county may purchase land outside an area  
31 of critical state concern for conservation purposes only if:

32           (a) An accurate inventory, conducted within the last 12  
33 months, of county-owned property is made publicly available;

34           (b) Sufficient funds are approved in the county's annual  
35 budget for the restoration and maintenance of existing  
36 properties;

37           (c) A description of the current use of existing properties  
38 and an analysis of proposed future uses of existing properties  
39 are made publicly available; and

40           (d) An analysis by the county describing the annual cost of  
41 restoration and maintenance of the proposed land purchase is  
42 completed and made publicly available, and funds sufficient to  
43 restore and maintain the proposed land purchase are approved and  
44 set aside.

45           (2) A purchase of land by the county is exempt from this  
46 section if it is approved by referendum or if the land is  
47 purchased for active public use.

48           Section 3. (1) A municipality may purchase land outside an  
49 area of critical state concern for conservation purposes only  
50 if:

51           (a) An accurate inventory, conducted within the last 12  
52 months, of municipally owned property is made publicly  
53 available;

54           (b) Sufficient funds are approved in the municipality's  
55 annual budget for the restoration and maintenance of existing  
56 properties;

57           (c) A description of the current use of existing properties  
58 and an analysis of proposed future uses of existing properties

11-00739C-14

20141398\_\_

59 are made publicly available; and

60 (d) An analysis by the municipality describing the annual  
61 cost of restoration and maintenance of the proposed land  
62 purchase is completed and made publicly available, and funds  
63 sufficient to restore and maintain the proposed land purchase  
64 are approved and set aside.

65 (2) A purchase of land by the municipality is exempt from  
66 this section if it is approved by referendum or if the land is  
67 purchased for active public use.

68 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.