

By Senator Evers

2-01158B-15

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to water resources; amending s.
3 373.227, F.S.; prohibiting permitted allocation
4 amounts from being modified if actual water use is
5 less than permitted water use due to documented
6 implementation of water conservation measures;
7 requiring the water management districts to adopt
8 rules to promote water conservation incentives;
9 amending s. 373.323, F.S.; clarifying that a letter
10 from a water well contractor or a water well inspector
11 employed by a governmental agency may serve as
12 satisfactory proof of requisite experience for taking
13 the water well contractor licensure examination;
14 amending s. 373.705, F.S.; requiring water management
15 districts to promote expanded cost share criteria for
16 additional conservation practices; providing an
17 effective date.

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

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21 Section 1. Present subsection (5) of section 373.227,
22 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (6), and a new
23 subsection (5) is added to that section, to read:

24 373.227 Water conservation; legislative findings and
25 intent; objectives; comprehensive statewide water conservation
26 program requirements.—

27 (5) In order to incentivize conservation of water, if
28 actual water use is less than permitted water use due to
29 documented implementation of water conservation measures,

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30 including, but not limited to, those measures identified in best
31 management practices pursuant to s. 570.93, the permitted
32 allocation may not be modified due to these circumstances during
33 the term of the permit. In order to promote implementation of
34 conservation and other measures that produce significant water
35 savings beyond that required in consumptive use permits, the
36 water management districts shall adopt rules providing water
37 conservation incentives, including permit extensions.

38 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
39 373.323, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

40 373.323 Licensure of water well contractors; application,
41 qualifications, and examinations; equipment identification.—

42 (3) An applicant who meets the following requirements shall
43 be entitled to take the water well contractor licensure
44 examination:

45 (b) Has at least 2 years of experience in constructing,
46 repairing, or abandoning water wells. Satisfactory proof of such
47 experience shall be demonstrated by providing:

48 1. Evidence of the length of time the applicant has been
49 engaged in the business of the construction, repair, or
50 abandonment of water wells as a major activity, as attested to
51 by a letter from a water well contractor or ~~and~~ a letter from a
52 water well inspector employed by a governmental agency.

53 2. A list of at least 10 water wells that the applicant has
54 constructed, repaired, or abandoned within the preceding 5
55 years. Of these wells, at least seven must have been
56 constructed, as defined in s. 373.303(2), by the applicant. The
57 list shall also include:

58 a. The name and address of the owner or owners of each

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59 well.

60 b. The location, primary use, and approximate depth and
61 diameter of each well that the applicant has constructed,
62 repaired, or abandoned.

63 c. The approximate date the construction, repair, or
64 abandonment of each well was completed.

65 Section 3. Subsection (5) is added to section 373.705,
66 Florida Statutes, to read:

67 373.705 Water resource development; water supply
68 development.—

69 (5) The water management districts shall promote expanded
70 cost share criteria for additional conservation practices, such
71 as soil and moisture sensors, and other irrigation improvements,
72 water-saving equipment, and water-saving household fixtures.

73 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.