

Tab 2 SB 290 by Truenow; Similar to H 00433 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services						
506412	A	S	AG, Truenow	Delete L.263 - 293:	12/01 11:24 AM	
865844	A	S	AG, Truenow	btw L.743 - 744:	12/01 11:23 AM	
366508	A	S	AG, Truenow	Delete L.1543:	12/01 11:24 AM	

Tab 3 SB 386 by Trumbull; Farm Equipment						
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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

AGRICULTURE
Senator Truenow, Chair
Senator Grall, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, December 2, 2025**TIME:** 3:30—5:30 p.m.**PLACE:** 301 Senate Building**MEMBERS:** Senator Truenow, Chair; Senator Grall, Vice Chair; Senators Bernard, Burton, and Rouson

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Presentation by the Florida Forest Service		
2	SB 290 Truenow (Similar H 433)	Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; Prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively, from enacting or enforcing any law that restricts or prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment or that distinguishes such equipment from any other equipment under certain circumstances; requiring the Acquisition and Restoration Council to determine whether certain surplus lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; establishing the Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program; revising the Florida Forest Service powers, authority, and duties; authorizing the Forest Service to manage the Welaka Training Center; establishing the Farmers Feeding Florida Program for specified purposes; limiting the number of incorporated state fair associations per county; prohibiting the possession, manufacture, sale, importation, distribution, or use of a signal jamming device, etc. AG 12/02/2025 FP RC	
3	SB 386 Trumbull	Farm Equipment; Authorizing a consumer to report farm equipment that is defective and does not conform to specified warranties to the manufacturer or its authorized service agent during a specified timeframe to allow the manufacturer or its authorized agent to conform such farm equipment to such warranty; requiring the manufacturer or its authorized agent to make such repairs to conform the farm equipment to the warranty upon receipt of such report, etc. AG 12/02/2025 CM RC	
TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION

Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointments to the offices indicated.

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Agriculture

Tuesday, December 2, 2025, 3:30—5:30 p.m.

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
Florida Citrus Commission			
4	Ezell, Emily ()	05/31/2027	
	Sutton, Daniel (Alva)	05/31/2026	
	Schirard, John Patrick (Vero Beach)	05/31/2027	
	Poulton, William Scott (Lakewood Ranch)	05/31/2028	
	Martinez, Carlos H. (St. Pete Beach)	05/31/2026	
	Johnson, Steve Allen (Bowling Green)	05/31/2028	
	Hunt, Daniel H. (Lake Wales)	05/31/2026	
	Hollingsworth, Vernon C. III (Arcadia)	05/31/2028	
	Frielich, Sean H. (Lakeland)	05/31/2027	

TAB	OFFICE and APPOINTMENT (HOME CITY)	FOR TERM ENDING	COMMITTEE ACTION
Senate Confirmation Hearing: A public hearing will be held for consideration of the below-named executive appointments to the offices indicated.			
Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers			
	Cross, Landon (Boca Raton)	10/31/2029	
	Sullivan, Jim (Palm Beach Garden)	10/31/2028	
	Getz, Andrew R. (Dade City)	10/31/2028	
	Cramer, David Keith (Cape Coral)	10/31/2029	
5	Cannon, Jennifer Hooten (Ponte Vedra)	10/31/2029	

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
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Other Related Meeting Documents

Florida Forest Service Overview

Rick Dolan

Director



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Florida Forest Service

Mission Statement

To protect Florida and its people from the dangers of wildland fire and manage the forest resources through a stewardship ethic to assure they are available for future generations.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Forest Protection

- FFS has 14 district offices, providing statewide fire management that reduces threats to life and property, forests, and other wildland resources.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Forest Protection



- FFS is the jurisdictional agency for all state and private land wildfire response.

- YTD Wildfires: **3374** Acres Burned: **231,580**

	<u>State</u>	<u>Federal</u>	<u>Totals</u>
* Fires	2,942	432	3,374
* Acres	164,408	67,172	231,580

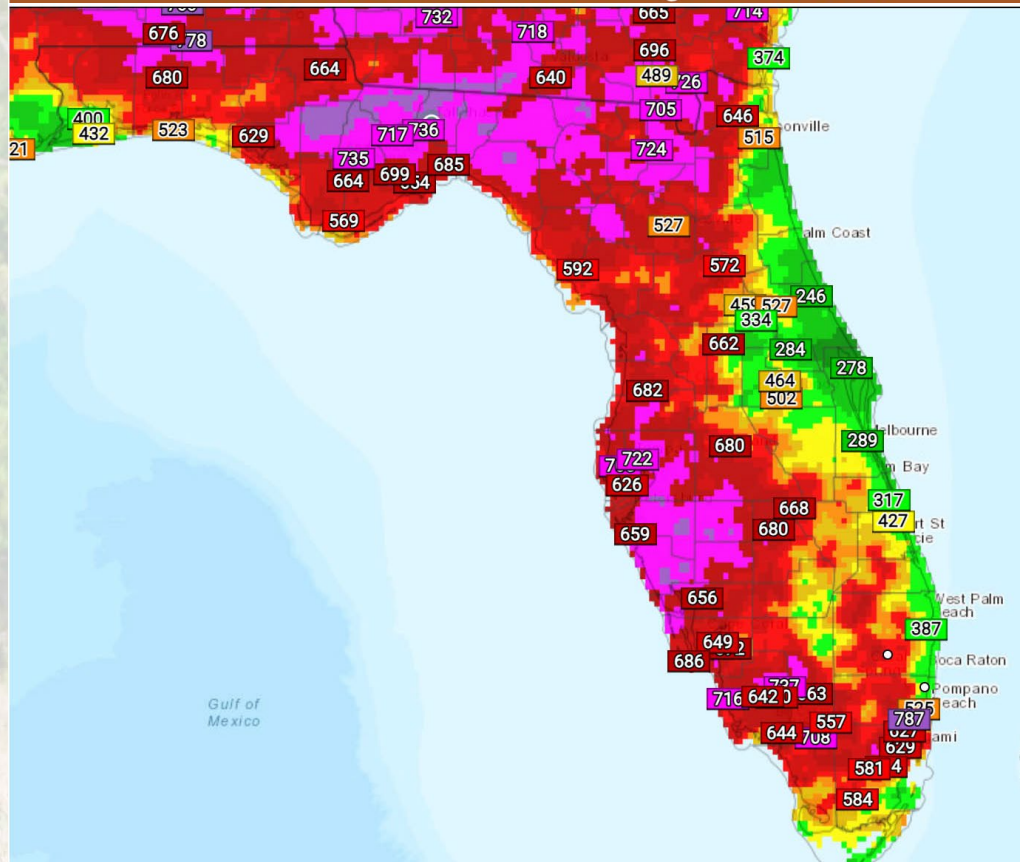
- FFS firefighters are highly trained experts, responding at a moment's notice with some of the country's most advanced technology.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
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Forest Protection

From the Fire Weather Intelligence Portal



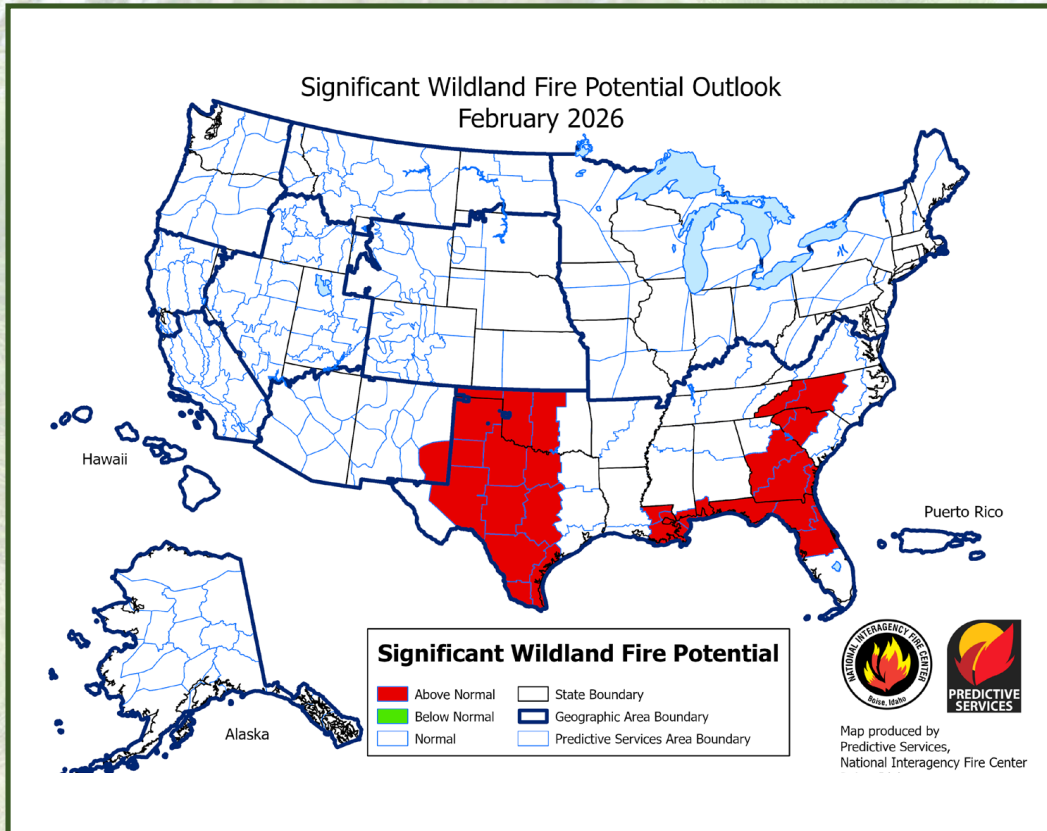
- Current drought map



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
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Forest Protection

- The three-month outlook map predicts dry weather to continue for Florida, leading to what could be a very active 2026 fire season.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Emergency Response



- FFS responds to disasters such as hurricanes with chainsaw and incident management teams while working with the Florida Division of Emergency Management and the State Emergency Response Team (SERT).



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Florida State Forests



- FFS manages 38 state forests and one ranch, over 1.2 million acres of state forest land. Many are near the state's largest urban areas, including Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa, Ft Myers, Gainesville, and Destin.
- State forests provide recreation opportunities such as camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, biking, and kayaking.
- Forests clean the air, improve water quality/quantity, and create green spaces



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Prescribed Fire



- Florida leads the nation in prescribed fire, reducing hazardous fuel buildups, providing increased protection to people, their homes, and the forest.
- FFS oversees Florida's Burn Authorization Program
- YTD = **83,489** Authorized Fires, **1,780,752** Authorized Acres



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Forest Management



- Timber is a \$25 billion industry and Florida's top commodity. Forest products are found in more than 5,000 items, including paper towels, toothpaste, and computer screens.
- 16.8 million acres of Florida are forested, half the state.
- Includes State Forests and assistance for non-industrial private landowners.
- FFS manages Andrews Nursery in Chiefland, producing 7 million pine seedlings annually for reforestation efforts in the state.



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

Florida Forest Service

Questions?



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: SB 290

INTRODUCER: Senator Truenow

SUBJECT: Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

DATE: December 1, 2025

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Stokes-Ramos	Becker	AG	Pre-meeting
2.			FP	
3.			RC	

I. Summary:

SB 290 makes a number of changes to laws related to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department) and related topics. Specifically, the bill:

- Prohibits a county or municipality from enacting a local policy to restrict the use of gasoline-powered farm or landscape equipment.
- Requires the Acquisition and Restoration Council to determine whether any lands surplusd by a local governmental entity are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, and prohibits local governments from transferring future development rights for such lands.
- Requires the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) to determine whether any state-owned conservation lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, and to retain a rural-lands-protection easement for all such lands.
- Removes the Babcock Ranch Advisory Group.
- Adds criminal penalties for receiving or providing unauthorized assistance on a commercial driver license (CDL) exam.
- Repeals statutes requiring Florida’s participation in the Southern States Energy Compact.
- Prohibits land application of classes of biosolids besides Class AA biosolids, and removes the requirement that rules adopted by the department with respect to biosolids be ratified by the Legislature.
- Repeals the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.
- Prohibits commercial solicitation on properties that comply with “no solicitation” signage requirements and provides penalties for violation.
- Allows the department to reorganize itself upon approval of the commissioner.
- Modifies eligibility requirements for the Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Emergency Recovery Loan Program.
- Creates the Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program to help offset loans incurred for studies leading to a veterinary degree with a specialization in food animal veterinary medicine.

- Adds the Welaka Training Center as a site that the Florida Forest Service (FFS) may operate to train fire and forest resource managers, and adds that the FFS may assess appropriate fees to meet its operational costs regardless of the training location.
- Allows the FFS to pay the CDL renewal costs for employees whose positions require them to operate equipment requiring a CDL.
- Establishes the Farmers Feeding Florida Program and restricts Feeding Florida from allowing an opposed candidate for elective office to host a food distribution event.
- Prohibits the department from renewing a certificate of registration for an aquaculture facility that is not in compliance, and imposes a 3-year waiting period for reapplication.
- Revises various regulations of fairs and fair associations.
- Adds “concealed weapon permit” or “concealed weapon permitholder” to the list of words a person is prohibited from wearing or displaying with the intention to mislead, and provides criminal penalties for violation.
- Removes the word “perishable” from the agricultural food products for which agricultural producers can seek to recover damages for disparagement, and adds that the term “agricultural food product” includes any agricultural practices used in the production of such products.
- Prohibits the possession, use, manufacture, import, sale, or distribution of signal jamming devices.

Overall, the bill has an indeterminate, yet likely insignificant impact to the department. See **Section V. Fiscal Impact Statement.**

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026, except for Section 3 of the bill, which is retroactive to January 1, 2024.

II. Present Situation:

The present situation for each issue is described below in Section III, Effect of Proposed Changes.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Gasoline-Powered Equipment

Present Situation

The governing body of a county or municipality has broad legislative powers to enact ordinances and local laws, perform governmental functions, and exercise power to promote the health, welfare, safety, and quality of life of a local government’s residents. Ordinances address a wide variety of local issues, from government structure and zoning laws to speed limits and noise ordinances. Procedures for passing local ordinances are prescribed by the Legislature and differ only slightly between counties and municipalities.

A number of local governments have introduced and adopted ordinances that prohibit the use of gasoline-powered leaf blowers and chainsaws, including Naples¹ and Miami Beach.² These local governments have cited noise and environmental pollution concerns motivating the ordinances. The city of Winter Park prohibited the use of internal combustion engine leaf blowers, but voters later reversed the ban.³ Lawn care agencies were reported to express concern about the cost of switching to electric, and that electric leaf blowers do not hold a charge long enough for the required work.⁴⁵

The Florida Right to Farm Act⁶ provides that “a local government may not adopt any ordinance, regulation, rule, or policy to prohibit, restrict, regulate, or otherwise limit an activity of a bona fide farm operation on land classified as agricultural land pursuant to s. 193.461, where such activity is regulated through implemented best management practices or interim measures” developed by DEP, the department, or water management districts.

Section 366.032(2), F.S., also prohibits (except to enforce the Florida Building Code and Florida Fire Prevention Code) a municipality, county, special district, development district, or other political subdivision of the state from restricting or prohibiting the use of an appliance using the fuels or energy types used, delivered, converted, or supplied by the entities above.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 1 creates s. 125.489, F.S., to prohibit a county from enacting or enforcing a resolution, ordinance, rule, code, or policy or to take any action that restricts or prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment and provides related definitions. The bill does not prohibit or limit a county from encouraging the use of alternative farm or landscape equipment, such as battery-powered equipment.

Section 2 creates s. 166.036, F.S., to prohibit a municipality from enacting or enforcing a resolution, ordinance, rule, code, or policy or to take any action that restricts or prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment and provides related definitions. The bill does not prohibit or limit a municipality from encouraging the use of alternative farm or landscape equipment, such as battery-powered equipment.

¹ Naples Ordinance 2020-14542

² Miami Beach Ordinance 2024-4589

³ Winter Park Ordinance 3292-24

⁴ Ezzy, C. (2024, December 28). Winter Park leaders keep ban on gas-powered leaf blowers; Residents and workers outraged.” *WKMG, WKMG News 6 & ClickOrlando*. www.clickorlando.com/news/local/2024/02/01/winter-park-leaders-keep-ban-on-gas-powered-leaf-blowers-residents-and-workers-outraged/ (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

⁵ Winter Park voters reverse ban on gas-powered leaf blowers.” *Spectrum News*. mynews13.com/fl/orlando/news/2025/03/12/winter-park-voters-reverse-ban-on-gas-powered-leaf-blowers (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

⁶ Section 823.14, F.S.

Surplus of State-Owned Lands

Present Situation

State law designates the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (Board of Trustees)⁷ as the entity responsible for determining which state lands (the title to which are vested in the Board of Trustees) may be surplus.⁸ The statute addresses two different categories of state-owned lands: conservation lands and nonconservation lands.⁹ For all conservation lands, the Acquisition and Restoration Council¹⁰ must first make a recommendation to the Board of Trustees.¹¹ Conservation lands may only be surplus if the Board of Trustees, by an affirmative vote of at least three members, determines that the lands are no longer needed for conservation purposes.¹² Requests for surplus lands may be made by any public or private entity or person.¹³ Local government requests for surplus lands through purchase or exchange are expedited throughout the surplus process.¹⁴

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 3 amends s. 253.0341, F.S., to provide additional requirements for the surplus of state-owned lands. The bill requires the Acquisition and Restoration Council to determine whether any lands surplus by a local governmental entity are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes. A local governmental entity may not transfer future development rights for any surplus lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes.

DEP, in coordination with the department, shall determine whether any state-owned conservation lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, and may surplus such suitable state-owned lands. DEP shall retain a rural-lands-protection easement for all state-owned conservation lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural production. Proceeds from the sale of such surplus lands must be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund within the department. By January 1, 2027, DEP shall provide a yearly report of such surplus state-owned conservation lands.

This subsection is retroactive to January 1, 2024.

⁷ The Board of Trustees is a four-person board consisting of the Governor, the Attorney General, the Chief Financial Officer, and the Commissioner of Agriculture. *See* s. 253.02(1), F.S.

⁸ Section 253.0341(1), F.S.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ Section 259.035, F.S., provides that the Acquisition and Restoration Council (ARC) is a 10-member group with representatives from four state agencies, four appointees of the Governor, one appointee by the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and one appointee by the Commissioner of Agriculture and Consumer Services. ARC has responsibility for the evaluation, selection and ranking of state land acquisition projects on the Florida Forever priority list, as well as the review of management plans and land uses for all state-owned conservation lands. Dep't of Environmental Protection, *Acquisition and Restoration Council*, <https://floridadep.gov/lands/environmental-services/content/acquisition-and-restoration-council-arc> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025); *see also* s. 253.0341(6), F.S. (providing that before any decision by the Board of Trustees, ARC must review and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees concerning the request for surplus, and must determine whether the request is compatible with the resource values of and management objectives for such lands).

¹¹ Section 253.0341(1), F.S.

¹² FLA. CONST. art. X, s. 18.

¹³ Section 253.0341(11), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 253.0341(1), F.S.

Babcock Ranch Preserve

Present Situation

The Babcock Ranch covers an area of 143 square miles and comprises 81,499 acres in Charlotte County and 9,862 acres in Lee County. In July of 2006, a Palm Beach real estate development firm, Kitson & Partners, purchased the entire 91,361 acre Babcock Ranch. The entity retained approximately 18,000 acres for development and sold to the State of Florida the remaining 73,000 acres.

This acquisition was made possible through the Babcock Ranch Preserve Act that was passed by the Legislature in 2006. The Act authorized the Babcock Ranch Preserve (preserve) as a working ranch and to protect regionally important water resources, diverse natural habitats, scenic landscapes and historic and cultural resources in southwest Florida.

Kitson & Partners entered into an agreement with the state of Florida to form a public/private partnership to manage the preserve. A subsidiary of Kitson & Partners, Babcock Ranch Management LLC, entered into a management agreement with the Board of Trustees and Lee County to provide management services for the preserve.

Section 259.1053, F.S., creates the Babcock Ranch Advisory Group to assist the department by providing guidance and advice concerning the management and stewardship of the Babcock Ranch Preserve. The Babcock Ranch Advisory Group has not met since 2017.¹⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 4 amends s. 259.1053, F.S., to remove the Babcock Ranch Advisory Group from statute.

Payments to Subcontractors

Present Situation

Many of Florida's subcontractors and material suppliers are small, locally-owned businesses that depend on timely payments to stay in business. Late or withheld payments may also delay project completion.

Section 287.1351, F.S., prohibits a vendor that is in default on any contract with an agency or has otherwise repeatedly demonstrated an inability to fulfill the terms and conditions of previous state contracts from submitting a bid, proposal, or reply to an agency or enter into or renew a contract to provide goods or services to an agency after its placement on the suspended vendor list. The suspended vendor list¹⁶ includes vendors that have been removed from the vendor list for "failing to fulfill any of its duties specified in a contract with the State."¹⁷

¹⁵ See Babcock Ranch Advisory Group 10-year plan, <https://www.fdacs.gov/Forest-Wildfire/Our-Forests/State-Forests/Babcock-Ranch-Preserve/Babcock-Ranch-Preserve-10-Year-Land-Management-Plan> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

¹⁶ DMS. *Vendor registration and vendor lists*. https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_purchasing/state_agency_resources/vendor_registration_and_vendor_lists (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

¹⁷ Section 287.042, F.S.; See Rule 60A-10.006, F.A.C.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 5 amends s. 287.1351, F.S., to add that a vendor that has failed to timely compensate its subcontractors or suppliers will be placed on the suspended vendor list.

Section 12 amends s. 489.105, F.S., to define “subcontractor” and “supplier” as the same meaning provided in s. 558.002, F.S.

Section 13 creates s. 489.1295, F.S., to require a contractor to pay its subcontractors or suppliers within 15 business days after the contractor is paid for the respective services. A contractor who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, or a felony of the third degree when the services performed are valued at \$20,000 or more.

Section 43 reenacts s. 287.056, F.S., related to disqualification from state contract eligibility of vendors placed on the suspended vendor list, to incorporate the amendments made to s. 287.1351, F.S.

Section 44 reenacts s. 287.138, F.S., related to contracting with entities of foreign countries of concern, to incorporate the amendments made to s. 287.1351, F.S.

Cheating on CDL Examinations***Present Situation***

Applicants to drive vehicles requiring a CDL must undergo an exam that tests the applicant’s:

- Eyesight;
- Ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning, and directing traffic;
- Knowledge of the traffic laws of this state pertaining to the class of motor vehicle for which he or she is applying;
- Knowledge of the effects and dangers of driving under the influence of alcohol and controlled substances; and
- Knowledge of any special requirements for the safe operation of the class of vehicle for which he or she is applying to be licensed to operate.

He or she must also perform an actual demonstration of his or her ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the safe operation of a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles of the type covered by the license classification which the applicant is seeking, including an exam of the applicant’s ability to perform an inspection of his or her vehicle.¹⁸

Section 322.36, F.S., prohibits a person from authorizing or knowingly permitting a motor vehicle owned or controlled by him or her to be operated on any highway or public street except by a person authorized to operate a motor vehicle under this chapter. Anyone who violates this provision commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

¹⁸ Section 322.12(4), F.S.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 6 amends s. 322.12, F.S., to add that an applicant for a CDL who receives unauthorized assistance from another person on the exam that tests his or her knowledge of traffic laws and signage pertaining to the respective class of vehicle commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Section 7 amends s. 322.36, F.S., to add that a person who knowingly or willfully provides unauthorized assistance to an applicant for the CDL exam commits a misdemeanor of the second degree.

Southern States Energy Compact Repeal***Present Situation***

Section 377.711, F.S., establishes Florida as a member of the Southern States Energy Compact (compact). The compact is performed by the Southern States Energy Board (SSEB). The SSEB is a non-profit interstate compact organization created by state law in 1960 and consented to by Congress¹⁹ with a broad mandate to contribute to the economic and community well-being of the southern region.²⁰ Its mission is to enhance economic development and the quality of life through innovations in energy and environmental policies, programs, and technologies. The SSEB serves its members directly by providing assistance designed to develop effective energy and environmental policies and programs and represents its members before governmental agencies at all levels.

Section 377.712, F.S., provides for Florida's participation on the SSEB, including requiring the Governor, President of the Senate, and Speaker of the House of Representatives to each appoint one member to the SSEB. The section also authorizes departments, agencies, and officers of the state and its subdivisions to cooperate with the SSEB if the activities have been approved by either the Governor or the member appointed by the Governor.

According to the department, Florida has not used and does not anticipate using the services provided by the SSEB. Participating in the compact costs Florida approximately \$45,000 annually.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Sections 8, 9, and 10 repeal s. 377.71, F.S., s. 377.711, F.S., and s. 377.712, F.S., respectively. This removes from statute all language referencing the Southern States Energy Compact and Florida's requirement to participate in it.

Biosolids Management***Present Situation***

The proper treatment and disposal or reuse of domestic wastewater is an important part of protecting Florida's water resources. The majority of Florida's domestic wastewater is controlled

¹⁹ Public Laws 87-563 and 92-440.

²⁰ Southern States Energy Board. *About SSEB*. <http://www.sseb.org/about/> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

and treated by centralized treatment facilities regulated by the DEP. Florida has approximately 2,000 permitted domestic wastewater treatment facilities.²¹

When domestic wastewater is treated, solid, semisolid, or liquid residue known as biosolids²² accumulates in the wastewater treatment plant and must be removed periodically to keep the plant operating properly.²³ Biosolids also include products and treated material from biosolids treatment facilities and septage management facilities regulated by the DEP.²⁴ The collected residue is high in organic content and contains moderate amounts of nutrients.²⁵

The DEP has stated that wastewater treatment facilities produce about 340,000 dry tons of biosolids each year.²⁶ Biosolids can be disposed of in several ways including placement in a landfill, distribution and marketing as fertilizer, and land application to pasture or agricultural lands.²⁷ Biosolids are subject to regulatory requirements established by the DEP to protect public health and the environment.²⁸

Land application of biosolids involves spreading biosolids on the soil surface or incorporating or injecting biosolids into the soil at a permitted site.²⁹ This practice provides nutrients and organic matter to the soil on agricultural land, golf courses, forests, parks, mine reclamation sites, and other disturbed lands. Composted and treated biosolids are used by landscapers and nurseries, and by homeowners for their lawns and home gardens.³⁰

The DEP regulates three classes of biosolids for beneficial use: Class AA, Class A, and Class B biosolids.³¹ The classes are categorized based on treatment and quality, with Class AA biosolids receiving the highest level of treatment, and Class B receiving the lowest.³² Treatment of biosolids must reduce pathogens, the attractiveness of the biosolids for pests like insects and rodents, and the amount of toxic metals in the biosolids.³³

²¹ DEP. *General facts and statistics about wastewater in Florida*, <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/general-facts-and-statistics-about-wastewater-florida> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

²² Section 373.4595, F.S., defines biosolids as the solid, semisolid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic wastewater in a domestic wastewater treatment facility and include products and treated material from biosolids treatment facilities and septage management facilities. The term does not include the treated effluent or reclaimed water from a domestic wastewater treatment facility, solids removed from pump stations and lift stations, screenings and grit removed from the preliminary treatment components of domestic wastewater treatment facilities, or ash generated during the incineration of biosolids.

²³ DEP. *Domestic wastewater biosolids*. <https://floridadep.gov/water/domestic-wastewater/content/domestic-wastewater-biosolids> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

²⁴ Rule 62-640.200(6), F.A.C..

²⁵ *Id.*

²⁶ DEP. (2019). *Biosolids in Florida*. <https://www.florida-stormwater.org/assets/MemberServices/Conference/AC19/02%20-%20Frick%20Tom.pdf#:~:text=Biosolids%20and%20Management%20in%20Florida%20Estimated%20Total%20Production,two-thirds%20are%20beneficially%20used%20and%20onethird%20is%20landfilled> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

²⁷ *Id.*

²⁸ Rule 62-640, F.A.C..

²⁹ EPA. *Land application of biosolids*. <https://www.epa.gov/biosolids/land-application-biosolids> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

³⁰ *Id.*

³¹ Rule 62-640.200, F.A.C.

³² *Id.*; DEP. *Domestic wastewater biosolids*.

³³ Rule 62-640.200, F.A.C.

Class AA biosolids can be distributed and marketed like other commercial fertilizers with few further restrictions.³⁴

Biosolids are regulated under Rule 62-640 of the Florida Administrative Code. The rules provide minimum requirements, including monitoring and reporting requirements, for the treatment, management, use, and disposal of biosolids. The rules are applicable to wastewater treatment facilities, applicators, and distributors³⁵ and include permit requirements for both treatment facilities and biosolids application sites.³⁶

Each permit application for a biosolids application site must include a site-specific nutrient management plan (NMP) that establishes the specific rates of application and procedures to apply biosolids to land.³⁷ Biosolids may only be applied to land application sites that are permitted by the DEP and have a valid NMP.³⁸ Biosolids must be applied at rates established in accordance with the NMP and may be applied to a land application site only if all concentrations of minerals do not exceed ceiling and cumulative concentrations determined by rule.³⁹ According to the St. Johns Water Management District, application rates of biosolids are determined by crop nitrogen demand, which can often result in the overapplication of phosphorus to the soil and can increase the risk of nutrient runoff into nearby surface waters.⁴⁰

Once a facility or site is permitted, it is subject to monitoring, record-keeping, reporting, and notification requirements.⁴¹ The requirements are site-specific and can be increased or reduced by the DEP based on the quality or quantity of wastewater or biosolids treated; historical variations in biosolids characteristics; industrial wastewater or sludge contributions to the facility; the use, land application, or disposal of the biosolids; the water quality of surface and ground water and the hydrogeology of the area; wastewater or biosolids treatment processes; and the compliance history of the facility or application site.⁴²

The land application of Class A and Class B biosolids is also prohibited within priority focus areas in effect for Outstanding Florida Springs if the land application is not in accordance with a NMP that has been approved by the DEP.⁴³ The NMP must establish the rate at which all biosolids, soil amendments, and nutrient sources at the land application site can be applied to the land for crop production while minimizing the amount of pollutants and nutrients discharged into groundwater and waters of the states.⁴⁴

³⁴ DEP. *Domestic wastewater biosolids*; National Biosolids Data Project. *Florida biosolids*. <https://www.biosolidsdata.org/florida> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025); Rule 62-640.850, F.A.C.

³⁵ Rule 62-640.100, F.A.C.

³⁶ Rule 62-640.300, F.A.C.

³⁷ Rule 62-640.500, F.A.C.

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ Rule 62-640.700, F.A.C.

⁴⁰ Hoge, V. R., Environmental Scientist IV, St. Johns River Water Management District. *Developing a biosolids database for watershed modeling efforts*, abstract available at http://archives.waterinstitute.ufl.edu/symposium2018/abstract_detail.asp?AssignmentID=1719 (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

⁴¹ Rule 62-640.650, F.A.C.

⁴² *Id.*

⁴³ Section 373.811(4), F.S.

⁴⁴ *Id.*

Between 2018 and 2024, the number of biosolids land application sites decreased by about 40%. Florida Class AA and Class B biosolids are also marketed and distributed out of state.⁴⁵

Section 403.0855, F.S., provides legislative findings and requires the DEP to adopt rules for biosolids management. The statute requires all biosolids application sites to meet the DEP rules in effect at the time of the renewal of the biosolids application site permit or facility permit, effective July 1, 2020. Permittees applying Class A or Class B biosolids shall ensure a minimum unsaturated soil depth of 2 feet between the depth of biosolids placement and the water table level at the time of application. Permittees shall also be enrolled in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services best management practices program or be within an agricultural operation enrolled in the program for the applicable commodity type.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 11 amends s. 403.0855, F.S., to require that permittees of a biosolids land application site permitted after July 1, 2020, shall ensure that only Class AA biosolids are applied to the soil. This section also removes the requirement that rules adopted by the department pursuant to this section be ratified by the Legislature.

Obstructing Inspection

Present Situation

The Division of Food Safety is directly responsible for assuring the public of a safe, wholesome and properly represented food supply. It accomplishes this through the permitting and inspection of food establishments, inspection and evaluation of food products, and the performance of specialized laboratory testing on a variety of food products sold and/or produced in Florida.⁴⁶

Section 500.147, F.S., authorizes the department to have free access at all reasonable hours to any food establishment, any food records, or any vehicle being used to transport or hold food in commerce for the purpose of inspection or sampling.

Section 500.04, F.S., prohibits refusal to permit entry or inspection, or to permit the taking of a sample, as authorized by s. 500.147, F.S.

According to the department, the Division of Food Safety has reported experiences of food establishments obstructing inspection by creating inhospitable conditions for inspectors that make inspection difficult to perform.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 14 amends s. 500.04, F.S., to add obstruction to the prohibited acts involving permitting entry or inspection or sample taking as authorized by s. 500.147, F.S.

Section 45 reenacts s. 500.177, F.S., related to the penalty for violation of s. 500.04, F.S., for the purpose of incorporating the amendments made by the bill to s. 500.04, F.S.

⁴⁵ Email from DEP On File with Senate Agriculture Committee

⁴⁶ See <https://www.fdacs.gov/Divisions-Offices/Food-Safety> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

Healthy Food Financing Initiative

Present Situation

In 2016, the Florida Legislature directed the department to establish a Healthy Food Financing Initiative Program (program) to provide financial assistance for the rehabilitation or expansion of grocery retail outlets located in underserved or low-income communities.⁴⁷ The department was directed to draw upon and coordinate the use of federal, state, and private loans or grants, federal tax credits, and other types of financial assistance. The goal of the program is to improve public health and well-being of low-income children, families, and older adults by increasing access to fresh produce and other nutritious foods at participating grocery outlets that are required to allocate at least 30 percent of their retail space to the sale of perishable foods, which may include fresh or frozen dairy products, fresh produce, and fresh meats, poultry, and fish.⁴⁸

For the 2016-2017 fiscal year, \$500,000 in nonrecurring funds was appropriated to the department to implement the program.⁴⁹

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 15 repeals s. 500.81, F.S., the Healthy Food Financing Initiative.

Product Mislabeling

Present Situation

Section 500.93, F.S., provides definitions for “egg,” “egg product,” “FDA,” “meat,” “milk,” and “poultry” or “poultry product” to align with the federal definitions. The statute grants the department rulemaking authority to enforce the FDA’s standard of identity for milk, eggs, egg products, meat, poultry, and poultry products and prohibit the sale of plant-based products mislabeled as milk, eggs, egg products, meat, poultry, and poultry products in the state. It provides that this subsection is effective upon the enactment into law of a mandatory labeling requirement to prohibit the sale of plant-based products mislabeled as milk, eggs, egg products, meat, poultry, and poultry products by any 11 of the group of 14 states identified in statute.⁵⁰

The statute requires the department to notify the Division of Law Revision upon the enactment into law of mandatory labeling requirements by any 11 of the group of 14 states identified in statute.⁵¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 16 amends s. 500.93, F.S., to add in a cross reference previously omitted.

⁴⁷ Section 500.81, F.S.

⁴⁸ Section 500.81, F.S.

⁴⁹ Chapter 2016-221, Laws of Florida.

⁵⁰ The 14 states are composed of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia.

⁵¹ *Id.*

Health Studio Registration Exemptions

Present Situation

The Health Studio Act, ss. 501.012-501.019, F.S., regulates health studios that enter into contracts for health studio services with consumers. “Health studios” includes, among other things, a gym that offers its members the use of weight-training and cardiovascular equipment. The act requires studios to:

- Register with the department;
- Include specific provisions in every contract with a consumer, such as the consumer’s total payment obligations, and cancellation provisions;
- Provide a security bond, generally ranging from \$10,000 to \$25,000, depending on the value of outstanding contracts with the studio; and
- Refrain from prohibited practices, such as committing an intentional fraud.

The following health studios or health-related businesses are exempt from registration with the department:⁵²

- Nonprofit organizations that have tax-exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service;
- Gymnastics schools that engage in instruction and training only;
- Golf, tennis, or racquetball clubs that do not offer physical exercise equipment;
- A program or facility offered and used solely for the purpose of dance, aerobic exercise, or martial arts that does not use physical exercise equipment;
- Country clubs that primarily provide social or recreational amenities to its members; and
- A program or facility offered by an organization for the exclusive use of its employees and their family members.

Changes in the health studio industry have created additional types of businesses not contemplated at the creation of the statute which bear similarities to the types of businesses exempt under s. 501.013, F.S.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 17 amends s. 501.013, F.S., to add that the department may exempt any other businesses or activities not in existence as of July 1, 2026, from ss. 501.012-501.019, F.S.

Unauthorized Commercial Solicitation

Present Situation

Section 501.022, F.S., prohibits home solicitation sales, as defined in s. 501.021, F.S., without first obtaining a valid home solicitation sale permit. Violation of this statute is a first-degree misdemeanor. Some local ordinances in Florida impose further restrictions on home solicitation sales. For example, Leon County prohibits such solicitation on properties that display the locally-required “No Solicitation,”⁵³ the town of Palm Beach prohibits such solicitation outside of

⁵² Sections 501.0125-.013, F.S.

⁵³ Chapter 12, Article IV, Sec. 12-82, Leon County Code of Laws.

specified hours and on properties that display a “No Solicitation,”⁵⁴ and the city of Belle Isle⁵⁵ prohibits such solicitation outside of specified hours.⁵⁶

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 18 creates s. 501.062, F.S., to provide legislative intent and prohibit commercial solicitation on properties that comply with “no commercial solicitation” signage requirements as provided in the section. The section also provides penalties for violation, including a noncriminal violation punishable with a \$500 fine for the first violation and a second-degree misdemeanor for a second or subsequent violation.

Departmental Reorganization Powers

Present Situation

Section 20.04, F.S., outlines the required structure of the executive branch of state government. Subsection 20.04(7), F.S., states that unless authorized by law, department heads may not reallocate duties and functions specifically assigned by law to a specific unit of the department, but they can do so for duties and functions assigned generally to the department. Department heads may recommend the establishment of additional units, but additional divisions may only be established by statutory enactment, while other units may be initiated by the department and established as recommended by the Department of Management Services and approved by the Executive Office of the Governor, or by statutory enactment.

Section 570.07, F.S., outlines the functions, powers, and duties of the department.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 19 amends s. 570.07, F.S., to add that the department shall have the functions, powers, and duties to reorganize departmental units upon approval of the commissioner, notwithstanding s. 20.04(7), F.S.

Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Emergency Recovery Loan Program

Present Situation

The Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Emergency Recovery Loan Program, established by s. 570.822, F.S., makes loans to agriculture and aquaculture producers that have experienced damage or destruction from a declared emergency. Loan funds may be used to restore, repair, or replace essential physical property or remove vegetative debris from essential physical property.

Under the program, the department is authorized to make low-interest or interest-free loans of up to \$500,000 to eligible applicants. An approved applicant may receive no more than one loan per

⁵⁴ Chapter 78, Article I, sec. 78-1, Palm Beach, Florida, Code of Ordinances.

⁵⁵ Ch. 20, sec. 20-2, see

https://library.municode.com/fl/belle_isle/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIICOOR_CH20PESO_S20-4PROBSOPE
(last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

⁵⁶ Chapter 20, sec. 20-2, Belle Isle, Florida, Code of Ordinances.

declared disaster, two loans per year, and five loans within any three-year period. The term of each loan is 10 years.

To be eligible an applicant must:

- Own or lease a bona fide farm operation damaged or destroyed as a result of a declared natural disaster located in a county that experienced a declared natural disaster; and
- Maintain complete and acceptable farm records, pursuant to criteria published by the department, and present them as proof of production levels and bona fide farm operations.⁵⁷

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 20 amends s. 570.822, F.S., to add that eligible applicants for the program must be a United States citizen and a legal resident of this state before or on the date of the declared emergency. If the applicant is an entity as defined in s. 605.0102, F.S., it must be wholly owned and operated in the United States and have an active certificate of status issued by the Department of State pursuant to chapter 605, F.S.

Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program

Present Situation

Florida has experienced a shortage of food animal veterinarians caring for livestock and food animals, particularly in rural areas. Nationally, over 72% of new veterinary graduates go into companion animal practices, with average starting salaries of \$140,000, while around 3% of new graduates pursue food animal practice, with starting salaries averaging \$100,000.⁵⁸ Student loan debt can be a major factor driving new graduates to companion animal practice rather than food animal practice. Having a greater number of food animal veterinarians working in the state can help ensure animal health, food safety, and sufficient emergency response during disease outbreaks.

The federal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program, authorized by the National Veterinary Medical Services Act⁵⁹ and administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), provides veterinary medicine education loan repayments of up to \$40,000 per year for veterinarians who provide agricultural animal veterinary services in a designated veterinary shortage area.⁶⁰

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 21 creates s. 570.846, F.S., to establish the Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program. The bill authorizes the department to make payments that offset loans incurred for studies leading to a veterinary degree with a specialization in food animal veterinary

⁵⁷ Section 570.822(3), F.S.

⁵⁸ Larkin, M, (2025, October 15). American Veterinary Medical Association. *Inflation continues to dampen gains in veterinarian salaries, fewer new grads entering full time employment*. <https://www.avma.org/news/inflation-continues-dampen-gains-veterinarian-salaries-fewer-new-grads-entering-full-time> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

⁵⁹ National Veterinary Services Act, Public Law No. 108-61, 117 Stat. 2014 (2003). <https://www.congress.gov/108/plaws/publ161/PLAW-108publ161.pdf> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

⁶⁰ USDA. *The Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program*. <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/veterinary-medicine-loan-repayment-program> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025)

medicine. The department may make payments of up to \$25,000 each year for up to 5 years for up to three new eligible candidates. To be eligible, a candidate must have graduated from a college of veterinary medicine accredited by the American Veterinary Medical Association, have received a Florida veterinary medical license, have obtained a Category II Accreditation from the USDA, and be a practicing food animal veterinarian in this state who cares for food animals at least 20 hours per week. Candidates are ineligible if they are also receiving financial assistance from the federal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program as established in 7 U.S.C. part 3151a. The department may adopt any rules necessary to administer the program.

Limited Poultry Producer Annual Bird Limit

Present Situation

Section 583.01, F.S., currently defines the term “dealer” to mean any person, firm, or corporation, including a producer, processor, retailer, or wholesaler, that sells, offers for sale, or holds for the purpose of sale in this state 30 dozen or more eggs or its equivalent in any one week, or more than 384 dressed birds in any one week. The definition creates limited sale poultry requirements to benefit operators of small poultry farms, to provide a level of economic and regulatory relief relative to production and sale of limited poultry. Florida Administrative Code 5K-4.033 further defines a “Limited Poultry and Egg Farm Operation” as limited to 20,000 birds annually.

At the federal level, Public Law 90-492, known as the Poultry Product Inspection Act (PPIA), exempts poultry producers who slaughter or process the products of 20,000 poultry birds or fewer from certain inspection requirements of the act.⁶¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 22 amends s. 583.01, F.S., to change the dressed bird limit of a poultry “dealer” from 384 birds weekly⁶² to 20,000 birds annually. This change will align state law with federal law.

Florida Forest Service Training Centers

Present Situation

Florida Forest Service (FFS) has the primary responsibility for the prevention, detection, and suppression of wildfires wherever they may occur. It must provide firefighting crews and develop a training curriculum for forestry firefighters.

Section 590.02, F.S., grants the FFS the authority to pay the cost of the initial CDL exam fee for employees whose position requires them to operate equipment requiring a license, but does not include the cost of CDL renewal. The FFS employs more than 1,250 people in more than 90 job classes. The FFS had 20 different job classes that require a Class A or B CDL as a condition of employment, as of 2018. The Department of Financial Services prohibits the use of public funds to pay license or exam fees under Chapter 69I-40.002(23), F.A.C., unless specifically authorized by law.

⁶¹ 21 U.S.C. § 464. (2020).

⁶² 384 birds weekly adds up to 19,968 birds annually.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 23 amends s. 590.02, F.S., to add the Welaka Training Center as a site that the FFS may operate to train fire and forest resource managers, and adds that the FFS may determine and assess appropriate fees to meet its operational costs and grant free meals, room, and scholarships, regardless of the location of the training.

The bill also adds CDL renewal costs to the CDL costs paid by the FFS.

Farmers Feeding Florida Program

Present Situation

The Farmers Feeding Florida Program (program) was temporarily created during the 2025 legislative session and funded through the General Appropriations Act.⁶³ The bill permanently codifies this temporary program. The program provides funding and authority to Feeding Florida to purchase, transport, and distribute non-Emergency Food Assistance Program (non-TEFAP) fresh food products for the benefit of food insecure residents. The program supports Florida farmers while connecting them to families in need. In Florida, the USDA found that 12% of households were food insecure in 2023,⁶⁴ while Feeding America estimates that 3.2 million Floridians were food insecure that year.⁶⁵

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a USDA U.S.-grown food distribution program for low-income households that is administered in Florida by the department. The Farmers Feeding Florida Program distributes fresh food outside of TEFAP food.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 24 creates s. 595.421, F.S., to establish the Farmers Feeding Florida Program to coordinate with Feeding Florida or its successor entity to acquire, transport, and distribute non-TEFAP fresh food products for the benefit of residents who are food insecure due to a lack of local food resources, accessibility, and affordability. Feeding Florida shall submit monthly reports to the department detailing the amount of food purchased, itemized by commodity type, and purchase and delivery locations and dates. Feeding Florida shall also submit quarterly reports to the legislative appropriations committees detailing the amount of food distributed, itemized by commodity type, and the distribution locations. Foods purchased by Feeding Florida through the program are restricted to charitable purposes for hunger relief and may not reenter the wholesale, retail, or secondary markets. The bill also restricts Feeding Florida from allowing an opposed candidate for elective office to host a food distribution non-emergency event during the election season.

⁶³ Chapter 2025-198, Laws of Florida

⁶⁴ Rabbitt, M. P., Reed-Jones, M., Hales, L. J., & Burke, M. P. (2024). *Household food security in the United States in 2023*. USDA. https://ers.usda.gov/sites/default/files/_laserfiche/publications/109896/ERR-337.pdf?v=39293 (last visited Nov. 25, 2025)

⁶⁵ Feeding America. <https://map.feedingamerica.org/county/2023/overall/florida> (last visited Nov. 25, 2025)

Aquaculture Process Modernization

Present Situation

The Florida Aquaculture Policy Act established that aquaculture is agriculture and consolidated state regulatory responsibilities under the department. Florida's aquaculture industry produces the greatest variety of aquatic species of any state in the nation. Moreover, aquaculture is Florida's most diverse agribusiness. The state's subtropical climate, extensive marine and freshwater resources, cargo shipping infrastructure, and extensive coastline have made the state's aquaculture industry uniquely diverse. There are approximately 1,000 certified aquaculture farms in Florida, located in every region of the state, which produce an estimated 1,500 varieties of fish, aquatic plants, mollusks, crustaceans, turtles, amphibians, and alligators for ornamental, food and bait markets as well as for sporting, conservation, and educational purposes.⁶⁶⁶⁷

Sovereign submerged lands are lands in Florida that include tidal lands, islands, sand bars, shallow banks, and lands waterward of the ordinary or mean high water line, beneath navigable fresh water or beneath tidally-influenced waters.⁶⁸ To conduct aquaculture activities on sovereign submerged lands in Florida, an individual must obtain a lease from the Board of Trustees.⁶⁹ The department accepts and reviews applications and provides recommendations to the Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees may approve, approve with modifications, or deny the application.⁷⁰

An individual engaging in aquaculture must obtain an aquaculture certificate of registration from the department.⁷¹

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 25 amends s. 597.004, F.S., to restrict the department from renewing a certificate of registration for a facility that is not compliant with this section unless the renewal application includes documentation of corrective action, and to impose a 3-year reapplication waiting period for revoked or suspended certificates of registration. The bill also updates the scientific name of the Florida bass to *Micropterus salmoides*.

Section 26 amends s. 597.010, F.S., to allow, rather than obligate, the department to adjust annual rental fees for leases.

Florida Wine Trust Fund

Present Situation

The Legislature declared that viticulture, the production and utilization of grapes, is an underdeveloped agricultural commodity enterprise in this state. The Legislature recognizes that

⁶⁶ See <https://www.fdacs.gov/content/download/91723/file/FDACS-P-02145-2020FLAquacultureIndustryOverview.pdf> (last visited Dec. 1, 2025).

⁶⁷ Ch. 597, F.S.

⁶⁸ Rule 18-21.003(67), F.A.C.; s. 253.03(1), F.S.

⁶⁹ Sections 253.68 and 597.010, F.S.

⁷⁰ Rule 18-21.021(1)(q), F.A.C.

⁷¹ Section 597.004(1), F.S.

Florida possesses many resources and geographic advantages that favor the expansion and growth of present-day viticulture into a broad-based, economically viable industry. The growth potential of the present industry offers good opportunities for local economic development and supply trade. The development of viticulture is compatible with the economies, lifestyles, and interests of both rural and urban Florida.⁷²

Further, the Legislature finds that factors such as minimal new grape cultivar development, lack of printed information on production and processing, minimal understanding of winemaking techniques and requirements that will capitalize on the unique characteristics of available grape cultivars, minimal understanding of grape juice processing requirements, lack of fresh fruit handling and processing technology specifically for muscadine grape cultivars, lack of quality standards for wine and other processed grapes, lack of assistance and printed information for overall business planning and marketing, and lack of coordination of the many diverse interests and expertises which could contribute to the further development of viticulture in the state are inhibitory to the development of viticulture to the potential of which it is reasonably capable, going into the 21st century.⁷³

The Florida Viticulture Policy Act creates the Florida Wine Advisory Council, State Wine Plan, Florida Farm Winery Program, and Florida Wine Trust Fund to support the wine and viticulture industries in Florida.⁷⁴

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 27 amends s. 599.012, F.S., to make conforming changes replacing “viticulture” with “wine” as the products promoted by the Florida Wine Trust Fund, and adding “wine” to the topics of research for which the Florida Wine Trust Fund can provide grants.

Public Fair Charter and Permitting Process Modernization

Present Situation

The Legislature first passed laws for the purpose of regulating state fair associations and operations by enacting ch. 7388, L.O.F, in 1917. In 1974, the Legislature enacted ch. 74-322, L.O.F., which created the Florida State Fair Authority to deal exclusively with the staging of the annual state fair in Tampa, Florida. The last major changes to the statute occurred when the statute was reviewed in 1993 under provisions of the Regulatory Sunset Act. At that time, it was revised and reenacted by the provisions of ch. 93-168, L.O.F.

Currently there is no mechanism in statute for the denial or remediation of fair charter applications. Applicants must record the proposed charter with the judge of the circuit court for the county in which the principal office of the association will be located. Applicants are also required to publish a notice of intention to apply in a local newspaper for four consecutive weeks, and to publish any amendments to their charter in the same manner. A fair association approved by the board of county commissioners is required to submit its charter and any

⁷² Section 599.001 F.S.

⁷³ *Id*

⁷⁴ Chapter 599, F.S.

amendments to the circuit judge of the county where its principal office is located and to file a copy with the department.

The department is required to issue a permit within 10 days after the permit application requirements have been fulfilled.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 28 amends s. 616.001, F.S., to remove the definitions of community, county, district, regional, and state fairs, which are included under “annual public fair.” The removal of these definitions also removes the requirements that the agricultural products of each fair be produced in or be typical of its respective geographic area, and that the majority of the board of directors of each fair shall reside, be employed, or operate a business in its respective geographic area. It removes the requirement that district fairs pay at least \$25,000 in cash premiums or awards to exhibitors, and that district fairs have exhibits representing basic resources in agriculture and industry of each county served by the fair. It also retains the definition “public fair or exposition” to include that it benefits and develops the educational agricultural, horticultural, livestock, charitable, historical, civic, cultural, scientific, and other resources of this state, or any county, municipality, or other community in this state.

Section 29 amends s. 616.01, F.S., to remove the minimum requirement of 25 persons to incorporate a fair association. The bill also creates a mechanism for denial of applications and a process for remediation before resubmission. It also requires the proposed charter submitted by approved applicants to be notarized. The bill adds requirements for the proposed charter to include provision for ex officio membership, the name of an elected member of the board of county commissioners who will serve as an ex officio member of the board of directors of the association, the official email address of the association, and the language for the oath that the applicant will take.

Section 30 amends s. 616.02, F.S., to limit the number of incorporated fair associations per county to one, excluding the state fair and fair associations incorporated before the bill effective date. The department may not approve a charter incorporating a new fair association in a county where one already exists, except at the discretion of the Commissioner of Agriculture.

Section 31 amends s. 616.03, F.S., to remove the requirement that a fair association applicant send a notice to the department of the intention to apply to the circuit court for the charter, that the notice be published in a newspaper in the county of the association each week for four consecutive weeks, that the notice briefly summarize the charter and objectives of the proposed association, and that the proposed charter be on file in the office of the clerk of the circuit court during the publication period. The proposed charter must first be approved by the department before being submitted to the board of county commissioners of the county where the principal office of the association will be located.

Section 32 amends s. 616.05, F.S., to remove the public notice requirement for association charter amendments that was removed for proposed charters in section 31.

Section 33 amends s. 616.051, F.S., to remove the public notice requirement for dissolving a fair association and to allow that remaining assets be distributed to the county in which the principal office of the association is located, unless otherwise specified by the property deed.

Section 34 amends s. 616.07, F.S., to remove the requirement for remaining assets of a dissolved association to be distributed to any county or municipality, and to remove the provision allowing the board of directors to designate the public project that will benefit from the funds or the manner in which the property will be used. It also removes the requirement that property contributed by a municipality or county be reconvened to that respective municipality or county.

Section 35 amends s. 616.101, F.S., to clarify that the threshold of annual attendance of 25,000 is based on recorded attendance from the previous year, and that a new fair association must follow the financial reporting requirements of a fair association whose fair has an annual attendance of 25,000 or fewer. It also adds the requirement that a fair association review its charter every 5 years and submit a certified copy to the department that incorporates any amendment made in the last 5 years. A designated member of the association shall attest that the submitted charter is accurate and factual.

Section 36 amends s. 616.15, F.S., to clarify that the application for a permit for the annual public fair shall be submitted to the department at least 90 days, rather than 3 months, before the fair. It adds the requirements that the permit applicant provide a copy of the association's charter which incorporates all amendments made and a complete listing of all exhibits required. It removes the requirement that the applicant provide a written statement subscribed by an association officer that the main purpose of the association is to conduct a public fair for the benefit of the resources of the geographic area represented by the fair. It removes several requirements for the permit application and adds them to requirements to be sent to the department 21 days before the fair: proof of liability insurance of at least \$300,000 per occurrence, a copy of the association's most recent annual financial statement, and a list of all current members of the board of directors of the association and their contact information.

Section 37 amends s. 616.251, F.S., to exempt the Florida State Fair Authority from part I of this chapter.

Section 42 amends s. 288.1175, F.S., regarding certified agriculture education and promotion facilities, to update the statutes referencing fair associations to be consistent with the changes made by this bill.

Section 46 reenacts s. 212.08(13), F.S., related to limitations on exemptions to sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax, for the purpose of incorporating amendments made by the bill to s. 616.07, F.S.

Section 47 reenacts s. 616.185, F.S., related to trespass on public fair grounds or facilities, for the purpose of incorporating amendments made by the bill to s. 616.15, F.S.

Unlawful Use of Badges and Concealed Weapon Permit

Present Situation

Section 843.08, F.S., punishes false personation of a law enforcement officer or other specified person. A person commits a false personation offense if he or she falsely assumes or pretends to be a law enforcement officer or other person specified in the statute and takes upon himself or herself to act as such or to require any other person to aid or assist him or her in a matter pertaining to the duty of any specified person.

Section 843.085(1) and (5), F.S., provides that it is a first degree misdemeanor to wear or display any authorized indicia of authority, including any badge, insignia, emblem, identification card, or uniform, or any colorable imitation thereof, of any federal, state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency, or other criminal justice agency, with the intent to mislead or cause another person to believe that he or she is a member of the agency or is authorized to wear or display the item containing the indicia or related words, unless appointed by the Governor pursuant to chapter 354, F.S., authorized by the appropriate agency, or displayed in a closed or mounted case as a collection or exhibit.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 38 amends s. 843.085, F.S., to add “concealed weapon permit” or “concealed weapon permitholder” to the list of words a person is prohibited from wearing or displaying with the intention to mislead or cause another person to believe that he or she is a member of the agency or is authorized to wear or display the item containing the words. Violation of this prohibition is a misdemeanor of the first degree.

Disparagement of Agricultural Food Products

Present Situation

Section 865.065, F.S., provides that the legislature finds, determines, and declares that the production of agricultural food products constitutes an important and significant portion of the state economy and that it is imperative to protect the vitality of the agricultural economy for the citizens of this state by providing a cause of action for agricultural producers to recover damages for the disparagement of any perishable agricultural product.⁷⁵ Current law provides that any producer or any association representing producers of perishable agricultural food products which suffers damages as a result of another person’s disparagement of any such product may bring an action for damages and any other relief a court deems appropriate.⁷⁶

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 39 amends s. 865.065, F.S., to remove the word “perishable” from the agricultural food products for which agricultural producers can seek to recover damages for disparagement. It also adds that the term “agricultural food product” includes any agricultural practices used in the production of such products. It adds attorney fees and costs of the action to the damages and other relief a court may deem appropriate for the disparagement.

⁷⁵ Section 865.065(1), F.S.

⁷⁶ Section 865.065(3), F.S.

Signal Jamming Devices

Present Situation

Chapter 934, F.S., governs the security of electronic and telephonic communications. Although most provisions in the chapter relate to law enforcement officers' and communication professionals' actions and limitations, some apply just as well to average citizens. One such provision is s. 934.03(4), F.S., which contains criminal offenses and corresponding penalties for intercepting another's oral communication unless the chapter contains an exception.⁷⁷

Section 934.04, F.S., prohibits the manufacture, distribution, or possession of wire, oral, or electronic communication intercepting devices. Violation of this section is a third-degree felony. Section 843.165, F.S., prohibits knowingly transmitting jamming devices or jamming transmissions over radio frequencies assigned by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to a state, county, or municipal governmental agency or water management district, or jamming radio transmissions made by volunteer communications personnel of such agencies or any public or private emergency medical services provider, unless authorized to do so. Violation of this section is a first-degree misdemeanor.

At the federal level, the FCC regulates the use of signal jamming devices. U.S. code 47, section 302a grants the FCC the authority to regulate radio frequency interference.⁷⁸ It prohibits the use, manufacture, import, sale, or shipment of devices that can interfere with radio communications, except as authorized. It does not, however, explicitly prohibit "possession" of such devices.

Effect of Proposed Changes

Section 40 amends s. 934.02, F.S., to add the definition of "signal jamming device" to mean a device or process designed to intentionally interfere with radio communications, police radar, or global positioning systems.

Section 41 creates s. 934.51, F.S., to prohibit the possession, use, manufacture, import, sale, holding for sale, or distribution of signal jamming devices, with the exception of federal or military law enforcement when used lawfully as part of a criminal investigation, or any person authorized by the FCC. Violation of this section constitutes a first-degree misdemeanor.

Section 48 provides that the bill shall take effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

Sections 1 and 2 prohibit local governments from enacting or enforcing ordinances related to gasoline-powered agriculture and landscape equipment.

⁷⁷ The prohibition located in s. 934.03(1), F.S., against intentionally intercepting, endeavoring to intercept, or procuring any other person to intercept or endeavor to intercept any wire, oral, or electronic communication, is punishable as a third-degree felony. Section 934.03(4), F.S. A third-degree felony is punishable by up to 5 years imprisonment and a \$5,000 fine. Sections 775.082 and 775.083, F.S. Note that s. 934.41, F.S., contains an alternative fine under limited circumstances.

⁷⁸ 47 U.S.C. § 302a (2021).

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill could result in more biosolids to be converted to Class AA biosolids and would prohibit the current practice of land application of Class A and B biosolids

The bill expands the types of foods for which producers can bring lawsuits for damages from disparagement and adds attorney fees and costs of the action to the damages they can claim.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The department may incur administrative costs in order to implement the bill.

Additionally:

- The bill may restrict counties and municipalities from imposing fines or fees for the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment on farms. The fiscal impact on county and municipal governments is indeterminate, but likely to be insignificant.
- The state will no longer be required to spend \$45,000 annually to be a member of the Southern States Energy Compact.
- There is likely a negative fiscal impact to both the public and private sectors to meet the requirements of the new provisions relating to biosolids. There may be a long-term positive fiscal impact as a result of reduced cleanup costs and reduced damage to the natural systems associated with more rigorous land application requirements.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

The word “of” is missing between “the name” and “an elected member” on line 1196 and between “directors” and “the association” in line 1199.

The word “perishable” should be stricken on line 1543 to be consistent with the rest of the bill.

VII. Related Issues:**Biosolids Management**

The changes made to the management of biosolids would benefit from further clarification, including providing certain definitions, the consideration of whether DEP rules should be codified, and the specification of whether the new regulations apply to new or renewed permits after the effective date of the bill.

Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program

The bill does not specify the types of loans that can be offset, except “for studies leading up to a veterinary degree with a specialization in food animal veterinary medicine.” The bill authorizes the program for up to three new eligible candidates annually but does not provide application or selection requirements. Additionally, it is unclear whether the \$25,000 a year is per candidate or for the program in total.

Public Fair Charter and Permitting Process Modernization

It is unclear whether Section 30 allows new associations to be formed in counties where any associations currently exist.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 253.0341, 259.1053, 287.1351, 288.1175, 322.12, 322.36, 403.0855, 489.105, 500.04, 500.93, 501.013, 570.07, 570.822, 583.01, 590.02, 597.004, 597.010, 599.012, 616.01, 616.02, 616.03, 616.05, 616.051, 616.07, 616.001, 616.101, 616.15, 616.251, 843.085, 865.065, and 934.02.

This bill creates the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 125.489, 166.036, 489.1295, 501.062, 570.846, 595.421, and 934.51.

This bill repeals the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 377.12, 377.71, 377.711, and 500.81.

This bill reenacts the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 212.08, 287.056, 287.138, 500.177, and 616.185.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



506412

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Agriculture (Truenow) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 263 - 293

and insert:

entity, as defined in s. 218.72, on or after January 1, 2024,
are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, as defined in
s. 193.461(3)(b). A local governmental entity may not transfer
future development rights for any surplus lands determined to
be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes on or after
January 1, 2024.



506412

(20) The Department of Environmental Protection, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, shall determine whether any state-owned conservation lands acquired on or after January 1, 2024, are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, as defined in s. 193.461(3)(b).

(a) Notwithstanding any other law or rule, the Department of Environmental Protection may surplus state-owned conservation lands acquired on or after January 1, 2024, determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes.

(b) For all state-owned conservation lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural production and surplus by the Department of Environmental Protection, the department shall retain a rural-lands-protection easement pursuant to s. 570.71(3). All proceeds from the sale of such surplus lands must be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for less than fee simple land acquisition pursuant to ss. 570.71 and 570.715.

(c) By January 1, 2027, and each January 1 thereafter, the Department of Environmental Protection shall provide a report of state-owned conservation lands surplus pursuant to this subsection to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

(d) Designated state forest lands, state park lands, or wildlife management areas may not be surplus pursuant to this subsection.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 21 - 36



506412

and insert:

Consumer Services, to determine whether certain state-owned conservation lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to surplus certain state-owned lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to retain a rural-lands-protection easement for such surplused lands; requiring that all proceeds from the sale of such surplused lands be deposited in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' Incidental Trust Fund for less than fee simple; requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to annually provide a report of such surplused lands to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund; prohibiting certain lands from being surplused;



865844

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Agriculture (Truenow) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 743 and 744
insert:

Section 21. Section 570.832, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

570.832 Florida Native Seed Research and Marketing
Program.—The Florida Wildflower Foundation, in coordination with
the department, shall, subject to appropriation, establish the
Florida Native Seed Research and Marketing Program to conduct



865844

research designed to expand the availability and uses of native
seeds and strengthen the market position of this state's native
seed industry through marketing campaigns and promotions in this
state and the nation.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Between lines 89 and 90

insert:

570.832, F.S.; requiring the Florida Wildflower
Foundation, in coordination with the Department of
Agriculture and Consumer Services, to establish the
Florida Native Seed Research and Marketing Program,
subject to legislative appropriation; providing the
purpose of the program; creating s.



366508

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

The Committee on Agriculture (Truenow) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Delete line 1543
and insert:
information that an ~~a perishable~~ agricultural food product is
not

By Senator Truenow

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Department of Agriculture and
 3 Consumer Services; creating ss. 125.489 and 166.063,
 4 F.S.; defining the terms "gasoline-powered farm
 5 equipment" and "gasoline-powered landscape equipment";
 6 prohibiting counties and municipalities, respectively,
 7 from enacting or enforcing any law that restricts or
 8 prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment
 9 or gasoline-powered landscape equipment or that
 10 distinguishes such equipment from any other equipment
 11 under certain circumstances; providing construction;
 12 amending s. 253.0341, F.S.; requiring the Acquisition
 13 and Restoration Council to determine whether certain
 14 surplus lands are suitable for bona fide
 15 agricultural purposes; prohibiting a local
 16 governmental entity from transferring future
 17 development rights for surplus lands determined to
 18 be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes;
 19 requiring the Department of Environmental Protection,
 20 in coordination with the Department of Agriculture and
 21 Consumer Services, to determine whether state-owned
 22 conservation lands are suitable for bona fide
 23 agricultural purposes; authorizing the Department of
 24 Environmental Protection to surplus state-owned lands
 25 determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural
 26 purposes; requiring the Department of Environmental
 27 Protection to retain a rural-lands-protection easement
 28 for such surplus lands; requiring that all proceeds
 29 from the sale of such surplus lands be deposited in

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30 the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's
 31 Incidental Trust Fund for less than fee simple;
 32 requiring the Department of Environmental Protection
 33 to annually provide a report of such surplus lands
 34 to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement
 35 Trust Fund; prohibiting certain lands from being
 36 surplus; providing for retroactive application;
 37 amending s. 259.1053, F.S.; deleting provisions
 38 relating to the Babcock Ranch Advisory Group; amending
 39 s. 287.1351, F.S.; revising circumstances under which
 40 a vendor is prohibited from submitting a bid,
 41 proposal, or reply to an agency or from entering into
 42 or renewing any contract to provide goods or services
 43 to an agency; amending s. 322.12, F.S.; providing
 44 penalties for an applicant for a commercial driver
 45 license who receives unauthorized assistance on
 46 certain portions of the examination; amending s.
 47 322.36, F.S.; prohibiting a person from knowingly or
 48 willfully providing unauthorized assistance to an
 49 applicant for the examination required to hold a
 50 commercial driver license; repealing ss. 377.71,
 51 377.711, and 377.712, F.S., relating to definitions
 52 and the Southern States Energy Compact, Florida as
 53 party to the Southern States Energy Compact, and
 54 Florida's participation in the Southern States Energy
 55 Board, respectively; amending s. 403.0855, F.S.;
 56 deleting provisions relating to legislative approval
 57 of certain rules adopted by the Department of
 58 Environmental Protection; revising requirements for

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59 permittees of biosolids land application sites;
 60 deleting an obsolete provision; amending s. 489.105,
 61 F.S.; defining the terms "subcontractor" and
 62 "supplier"; creating s. 489.1295, F.S.; prohibiting
 63 licensed contractors or persons holding themselves out
 64 as such from failing to pay their subcontractor or
 65 supplier within a specified timeframe without
 66 reasonable cause after receiving payment for the
 67 services the subcontractor or supplier performed;
 68 providing penalties; amending s. 500.04, F.S.;
 69 revising the list of prohibited acts related to the
 70 prevention of fraud, harm, adulteration, misbranding,
 71 or false advertising in the preparation, production,
 72 manufacture, storage, or sale of food; repealing s.
 73 500.81, F.S., relating to the Healthy Food Financing
 74 Initiative; amending s. 500.93, F.S.; making a
 75 technical change; amending s. 501.013, F.S.;
 76 authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
 77 Services to provide an exemption from certain health
 78 studio regulations; creating s. 501.062, F.S.;
 79 providing legislative intent; defining the terms
 80 "commercial solicitation" and "dwelling"; prohibiting
 81 a person from engaging in commercial solicitation
 82 under certain circumstances; providing construction;
 83 providing penalties; amending s. 570.07, F.S.;
 84 authorizing the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
 85 Services to reorganize departmental units upon the
 86 approval of the Commissioner of Agriculture; amending
 87 s. 570.822, F.S.; providing additional eligibility

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88 requirements for the Agriculture and Aquaculture
 89 Producers Emergency Recovery Loan Program; creating s.
 90 570.846, F.S.; establishing the Food Animal Veterinary
 91 Medicine Loan Repayment Program; providing the purpose
 92 of the program; defining terms; providing eligibility
 93 requirements for the program; authorizing the
 94 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to
 95 make loan principal repayments on behalf of eligible
 96 candidates up to a certain amount for a specified
 97 timeframe, subject to legislative appropriation;
 98 providing construction; authorizing the Department of
 99 Agriculture and Consumer Services to adopt rules;
 100 amending s. 583.01, F.S.; revising the definition of
 101 the term "dealer"; amending s. 590.02, F.S.; revising
 102 the Florida Forest Service powers, authority, and
 103 duties; authorizing the Forest Service to manage the
 104 Welaka Training Center; conforming provisions to
 105 changes made by the act; authorizing the Withlacoochee
 106 or Welaka Training Centers to assess certain fees as
 107 determined by the Florida Forest Service, regardless
 108 of where certain training occurs; creating s. 595.421,
 109 F.S.; establishing the Farmers Feeding Florida Program
 110 for specified purposes; requiring Feeding Florida to
 111 take certain actions to implement the program;
 112 prohibiting the food purchased by Feeding Florida
 113 through such program from reentering the wholesale,
 114 retail, or secondary market; prohibiting a candidate
 115 for elective office from hosting a food distribution
 116 event under certain circumstances; providing

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117 nonapplicability; amending s. 597.004, F.S.; making a
 118 technical change; prohibiting the Department of
 119 Agriculture and Consumer Services from renewing a
 120 certificate of registration for a noncompliant
 121 facility unless certain documentation is provided with
 122 the renewal application; prohibiting entities whose
 123 certificate of registration has been revoked from
 124 reapplying for a specified period of time; amending s.
 125 597.010, F.S.; authorizing rather than requiring the
 126 periodic adjustment of the annual rental fee charged
 127 for certain leases; amending s. 599.012, F.S.; making
 128 technical changes; amending s. 616.001, F.S.; revising
 129 and deleting definitions relating to public fairs and
 130 expositions; amending s. 616.01, F.S.; revising
 131 application requirements for a proposed charter for an
 132 association to conduct a public fair or exposition;
 133 requiring the Department of Agriculture and Consumer
 134 Services to provide an applicant for a proposed
 135 charter with specified information upon the denial of
 136 a proposed charter; revising requirements for
 137 information that must be included in the proposed
 138 charter; amending s. 616.02, F.S.; limiting the number
 139 of incorporated state fair associations per county;
 140 providing construction; authorizing the Department of
 141 Agriculture and Consumer Services to waive certain
 142 requirements at the discretion of the commissioner;
 143 authorizing fair associations incorporated before a
 144 certain date to conduct their affairs; deleting
 145 provisions relating to requirements for a proposed

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146 charter; amending s. 616.03, F.S.; revising
 147 requirements for the approval and recordation of the
 148 charter; amending s. 616.05, F.S.; revising the
 149 process by which a proposed charter amendment is
 150 incorporated into the original charter; amending s.
 151 616.051, F.S.; revising the circumstances under which
 152 a circuit judge is authorized to dissolve an
 153 association and order the distribution of its
 154 remaining assets; requiring that such assets be
 155 distributed to certain counties; amending s. 616.07,
 156 F.S.; deleting provisions relating to distribution of
 157 public funds after the dissolution of an association;
 158 amending s. 616.101, F.S.; specifying the basis for
 159 annual public fair attendance records; requiring a
 160 fair association to review its charter every 5 years
 161 and submit an updated copy of the charter to the
 162 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services;
 163 requiring a designated member of the association to
 164 make an attestation; amending s. 616.15, F.S.; making
 165 a technical change; revising the information that an
 166 applicant must submit to the Department of Agriculture
 167 and Consumer Services for the department to issue a
 168 permit for an association to conduct a fair; revising
 169 the timeframe within which the Department of
 170 Agriculture and Consumer Services is required to issue
 171 the permit upon the receipt of specified information;
 172 making technical changes; amending s. 616.251, F.S.;
 173 exempting the Florida State Fair Authority from
 174 specified provisions; amending s. 843.085, F.S.;

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175 prohibiting a person from wearing or displaying an
 176 item that displays the words "concealed weapon permit"
 177 or "concealed weapon permit holder" with the intent to
 178 mislead another to believe that the person is
 179 authorized to wear or display such item; reordering
 180 and amending s. 865.065, F.S.; revising definitions;
 181 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
 182 amending s. 934.02, F.S.; defining the term, "signal
 183 jamming device"; creating s. 934.51, F.S.; prohibiting
 184 the possession, manufacture, sale, importation,
 185 distribution, or use of a signal jamming device;
 186 providing exceptions; providing criminal penalties;
 187 amending s. 288.1175, F.S.; conforming cross-
 188 references; reenacting ss. 287.056(4) and 287.138(5),
 189 F.S., relating to disqualification for state term
 190 contract eligibility, and contracting with entities of
 191 foreign countries of concern prohibited, respectively,
 192 to incorporate the amendment made to s. 287.1351,
 193 F.S., in references thereto; reenacting s. 500.177(1),
 194 F.S., relating to penalties for dissemination of a
 195 false advertisement, to incorporate the amendment made
 196 to s. 500.04, F.S., in a reference thereto; reenacting
 197 s. 212.08(13), F.S., relating to taxation and
 198 specified exemptions, to incorporate the amendment
 199 made to s. 616.07, F.S., in a reference thereto;
 200 reenacting s. 616.185, F.S., relating to trespass upon
 201 grounds or facilities of a public fair, to incorporate
 202 the amendment made to s. 616.15, F.S., in a reference
 203 thereto; providing an effective date.

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204
 205 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 206
 207 Section 1. Section 125.489, Florida Statutes, is created to
 208 read:
 209 125.489 Preemption of restrictions on gasoline-powered farm
 210 equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment.—
 211 (1) As used in this section, the term:
 212 (a) "Gasoline-powered farm equipment" means any machine
 213 powered by an internal combustion engine or motor that uses
 214 gasoline, diesel, or a blend of gasoline and oil which is used
 215 on a farm or used to transport farm products.
 216 (b) "Gasoline-powered landscape equipment" means any
 217 machine powered by an internal combustion engine or motor that
 218 uses gasoline, diesel, or a blend of gasoline and oil which is
 219 used to provide landscape management or maintenance or to move
 220 leaves, dirt, grass, or other debris off of sidewalks,
 221 driveways, lawns, or other surfaces.
 222 (2) A county may not enact or enforce a resolution, an
 223 ordinance, a rule, a code, or a policy or take any action that
 224 restricts or prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm
 225 equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment and may not
 226 create differing standards for such equipment or distinguish
 227 such equipment from any electric or similar equipment in a
 228 retail, manufacturer, or distributor setting.
 229 (3) This section does not prohibit or limit a county from
 230 encouraging the use of alternative farm or landscape equipment,
 231 such as battery-powered farm or landscape equipment.
 232 Section 2. Section 166.063, Florida Statutes, is created to

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read:

166.063 Preemption of restrictions on gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment.-

(1) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Gasoline-powered farm equipment" means a machine powered by an internal combustion engine or motor that uses gasoline, diesel, or a blend of gasoline and oil which is used on a farm or used to transport farm products.

(b) "Gasoline-powered landscape equipment" means any machine powered by an internal combustion engine or motor that uses gasoline, diesel, or a blend of gasoline and oil which is used to provide landscape management or maintenance or to move leaves, dirt, grass, or other debris off of sidewalks, driveways, lawns, or other surfaces.

(2) A municipality may not enact or enforce a resolution, an ordinance, a rule, a code, or a policy or take any action that restricts or prohibits the use of gasoline-powered farm equipment or gasoline-powered landscape equipment and may not create differing standards for such equipment or distinguish such equipment from any electric or similar equipment in a retail, manufacturer, or distributor setting.

(3) This section does not prohibit or limit a municipality from encouraging the use of alternative farm or landscape equipment, such as battery-powered farm or landscape equipment.

Section 3. Present subsection (19) of section 253.0341, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (21), and new subsections (19) and (20) are added to that section, to read:

253.0341 Surplus of state-owned lands.-

(19) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall

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determine whether any lands surplus by a local governmental entity, as defined in s. 218.72, are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, as defined in s. 193.461(3)(b). A local governmental entity may not transfer future development rights for any surplus lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes.

(20) The Department of Environmental Protection, in coordination with the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, shall determine whether any state-owned conservation lands are suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes, as defined in s. 193.461(3)(b).

(a) Notwithstanding any other law or rule, the Department of Environmental Protection may surplus state-owned conservation lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural purposes.

(b) For all state-owned conservation lands determined to be suitable for bona fide agricultural production and surplus by the Department of Environmental Protection, the department shall retain a rural-lands-protection easement pursuant to s. 570.71(3). All proceeds from the sale of such surplus lands must be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for less than fee simple land acquisition pursuant to ss. 570.71 and 570.715.

(c) By January 1, 2027, and each January 1 thereafter, the Department of Environmental Protection shall provide a report of state-owned conversation lands surplus pursuant to this subsection to the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

(d) Designated state forest lands, state park lands, or

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291 wildlife management areas may not be surplusd pursuant to this
 292 subsection.

293 (e) This subsection is retroactive to January 1, 2024.

294 Section 4. Section 259.1053, Florida Statutes, is amended
 295 to read:

296 259.1053 Babcock Ranch Preserve, ~~Babcock Ranch Advisory~~
 297 ~~Group.~~—

298 (1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the “Babcock
 299 Ranch Preserve Act.”

300 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

301 (a) “Babcock Ranch Preserve” and “preserve” mean the lands
 302 and facilities acquired in the purchase of the Babcock Crescent
 303 B Ranch, as provided in s. 259.1052.

304 (b) “Commission” means the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
 305 Commission.

306 (c) “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of Agriculture.

307 (d) “Department” means the Department of Agriculture and
 308 Consumer Services.

309 (e) “Executive director” means the Executive Director of
 310 the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

311 (f) “Financially self-sustaining” means having management
 312 and operation expenditures not more than the revenues collected
 313 from fees and other receipts for resource use and development
 314 and from interest and invested funds.

315 (g) “Florida Forest Service” means the Florida Forest
 316 Service of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

317 (h) “Multiple use” means the management of all of the
 318 renewable surface resources of the Babcock Ranch Preserve to
 319 best meet the needs of the public, including the use of the land

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320 for some or all of the renewable surface resources or related
 321 services over areas large enough to allow for periodic
 322 adjustments in use to conform to the changing needs and
 323 conditions of the preserve while recognizing that a portion of
 324 the land will be used for some of the renewable surface
 325 resources available on that land. The goal of multiple use is
 326 the harmonious and coordinated management of the renewable
 327 surface resources without impairing the productivity of the land
 328 and considering the relative value of the renewable surface
 329 resources, and not necessarily a combination of uses to provide
 330 the greatest monetary return or the greatest unit output.

331 (i) “Sustained yield of the renewable surface resources”
 332 means the achievement and maintenance of a high level of annual
 333 or regular periodic output of the various renewable surface
 334 resources of the preserve without impairing the productivity of
 335 the land.

336 (3) CREATION OF BABCOCK RANCH PRESERVE.—

337 (a) Upon the date of acquisition of the Babcock Crescent B
 338 Ranch, there is created the Babcock Ranch Preserve, which shall
 339 be managed in accordance with the purposes and requirements of
 340 this section.

341 (b) The preserve is established to protect and preserve the
 342 environmental, agricultural, scientific, scenic, geologic,
 343 watershed, fish, wildlife, historic, cultural, and recreational
 344 values of the preserve, and to provide for the multiple use and
 345 sustained yield of the renewable surface resources within the
 346 preserve consistent with this section.

347 (c) This section does not preclude the use of common
 348 varieties of mineral materials such as sand, stone, and gravel

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for construction and maintenance of roads and facilities within the preserve.

(d) This section does not affect the constitutional responsibilities of the commission in the exercise of its regulatory and executive power with respect to wild animal life and freshwater aquatic life, including the regulation of hunting, fishing, and trapping within the preserve.

(e) This section does not interfere with or prevent the implementation of agricultural practices authorized by the agricultural land use designations established in the local comprehensive plans of either Charlotte County or Lee County as those plans apply to the Babcock Ranch Preserve.

(f) This section does not preclude the maintenance and use of roads and trails or the relocation of roads in existence on the effective date of this section, or the construction, maintenance, and use of new trails, or any motorized access necessary for the administration of the land contained within the preserve, including motorized access necessary for emergencies involving the health or safety of persons within the preserve.

~~(4) BABCOCK RANCH ADVISORY GROUP.—~~

~~(a) The purpose of the Babcock Ranch Advisory Group is to assist the department by providing guidance and advice concerning the management and stewardship of the Babcock Ranch Preserve.~~

~~(b) The Babcock Ranch Advisory Group shall be comprised of nine members appointed to 5-year terms. Based on recommendations from the Governor and Cabinet, the commission, and the governing boards of Charlotte County and Lee County, the commissioner~~

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~~shall appoint members as follows:~~

~~1. One member with experience in sustainable management of forest lands for commodity purposes.~~

~~2. One member with experience in financial management, budget and program analysis, and small business operations.~~

~~3. One member with experience in management of game and nongame wildlife and fish populations, including hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities.~~

~~4. One member with experience in domesticated livestock management, production, and marketing, including range management and livestock business management.~~

~~5. One member with experience in agriculture operations or forestry management.~~

~~6. One member with experience in hunting, fishing, nongame species management, or wildlife habitat management, restoration, and conservation.~~

~~7. One member with experience in public outreach and education.~~

~~8. One member who is a resident of Lee County, to be designated by the Board of County Commissioners of Lee County.~~

~~9. One member who is a resident of Charlotte County, to be designated by the Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County.~~

~~Vacancies will be filled in the same manner in which the original appointment was made. A member appointed to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of that term.~~

~~(c) Members of the Babcock Ranch Advisory Group shall:~~

~~1. Elect a chair and vice chair from among the group~~

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~~members.~~~~2. Meet regularly as determined by the chair.~~~~3. Serve without compensation but shall receive~~~~reimbursement for travel and per diem expenses as provided in s.~~~~112.061.~~~~(4)(5)~~ MANAGEMENT OF PRESERVE; FEES.—

(a) The department shall assume all authority provided by this section to manage and operate the preserve as a working ranch upon the termination or expiration of the management agreement attached as Exhibit "E" to that certain agreement for sale and purchase approved by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund on November 22, 2005, and by Lee County on November 20, 2005.

(b) Upon assuming management and operation of the preserve, the department shall:

1. Manage and operate the preserve and the uses thereof, including, but not limited to, the activities necessary to administer and operate the preserve as a working ranch; the activities necessary for the preservation and development of the land and renewable surface resources of the preserve; the activities necessary for interpretation of the history of the preserve on behalf of the public; the activities necessary for the management, public use, and occupancy of facilities and lands within the preserve; and the maintenance, rehabilitation, repair, and improvement of property within the preserve.

2. Develop programs and activities relating to the management of the preserve as a working ranch.

3. Establish procedures for entering into lease agreements and other agreements for the use and occupancy of the facilities

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of the preserve. The procedures shall ensure reasonable competition and set guidelines for determining reasonable fees, terms, and conditions for such agreements.

4. Assess reasonable fees for admission to, use of, and occupancy of the preserve to offset costs of operating the preserve as a working ranch. These fees are independent of fees assessed by the commission for the privilege of hunting, fishing, or pursuing outdoor recreational activities within the preserve, and shall be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund of the Florida Forest Service, subject to appropriation by the Legislature.

(c) The commission, in cooperation with the department, shall:

1. Establish and implement public hunting and other fish and wildlife management activities. Tier I and Tier II public hunting opportunities shall be provided consistent with the management plan and the recreation master plan. Tier I public hunting shall provide hunting opportunities similar to those offered on wildlife management areas with an emphasis on youth and family-oriented hunts. Tier II public hunting shall be provided specifically by fee-based permitting to ensure compatibility with livestock grazing and other essential agricultural operations on the preserve.

2. Establish and administer permit fees for Tier II public hunting to capitalize on the value of hunting on portions of the preserve and to help ensure the preserve is financially self-sufficient. The fees shall be deposited into the State Game Trust Fund of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission to be used to offset the costs of providing public hunting and to

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support fish and wildlife management and other land management activities on the preserve.

(d) The Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or its designated agent may:

1. Negotiate directly with and enter into such agreements, leases, contracts, and other arrangements with any person, firm, association, organization, corporation, or governmental entity, including entities of federal, state, and local governments, as are necessary and appropriate to carry out the purposes and activities authorized by this section.

2. Grant privileges, leases, concessions, and permits for the use of land for the accommodation of visitors to the preserve, provided no natural curiosities or objects of interest shall be granted, leased, or rented on such terms as shall deny or interfere with free access to them by the public. Such grants, leases, and permits may be made and given without advertisement or securing competitive bids. Such grants, leases, or permits may not be assigned or transferred by any grantee without consent of the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or its designated agent.

~~(5)(6)~~ DISSOLUTION OF BABCOCK RANCH, INC.—Upon dissolution of the Babcock Ranch, Inc., all statutory powers, duties, functions, records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, and other funds of the corporation shall be transferred to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services unless otherwise provided by law. Any cash balances of funds shall revert to the Incidental Trust Fund of the Florida Forest Service.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section

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287.1351, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (3) of that section is republished, to read:

287.1351 Suspended vendors; state contracts.—

(2) (a) A vendor that is in default on any contract with an agency, has failed to timely compensate its subcontractors or suppliers, or has otherwise repeatedly demonstrated a recent inability to fulfill the terms and conditions of previous state contracts or to adequately perform its duties under those contracts may not submit a bid, proposal, or reply to an agency or enter into or renew a contract to provide any goods or services to an agency after its placement, pursuant to this section, on the suspended vendor list.

(3) An agency shall notify the department of any vendor that has met the grounds for suspension described in paragraph (2) (a). The agency must provide documentation to the department evidencing the vendor's default or other grounds for suspension. The department shall review the documentation provided and determine whether good cause exists to remove the vendor from the vendor list and to place it on the suspended vendor list. If good cause exists, the department must notify the vendor in writing of its intent to remove the vendor from the vendor list and of the vendor's right to an administrative hearing and the applicable procedures and time requirements for any such hearing. If the vendor does not request an administrative hearing, the department must enter a final order removing the vendor from the vendor list. A vendor may not be removed from the vendor list without receiving an individual notice of intent from the department.

Section 6. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (4) of

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section 322.12, Florida Statutes, to read:

322.12 Examination of applicants.—

(4) The examination for an applicant for a commercial driver license shall include a test of the applicant's eyesight given by a driver license examiner designated by the department or by a licensed ophthalmologist, optometrist, or physician and a test of the applicant's hearing given by a driver license examiner or a licensed physician. The examination shall also include a test of the applicant's ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning, and directing traffic; his or her knowledge of the traffic laws of this state pertaining to the class of motor vehicle which he or she is applying to be licensed to operate, including laws regulating driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level, and driving while intoxicated; his or her knowledge of the effects of alcohol and controlled substances and the dangers of driving a motor vehicle after having consumed alcohol or controlled substances; and his or her knowledge of any special skills, requirements, or precautions necessary for the safe operation of the class of vehicle which he or she is applying to be licensed to operate. In addition, the examination shall include an actual demonstration of the applicant's ability to exercise ordinary and reasonable control in the safe operation of a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles of the type covered by the license classification which the applicant is seeking, including an examination of the applicant's ability to perform an inspection of his or her vehicle.

(c) An applicant for a commercial driver license who

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receives unauthorized assistance from another person in completing the portion of the examination which tests the applicant's ability to read and understand highway signs regulating, warning, and directing traffic or his or her knowledge of the traffic laws of this state pertaining to the class of motor vehicle for which he or she is applying to be licensed to operate, including laws regulating driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances, driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level, and driving while intoxicated, commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 7. Section 322.36, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

322.36 Permitting unauthorized operator to drive.—

(1) A person may not authorize or knowingly permit a motor vehicle owned by him or her or under his or her dominion or control to be operated upon any highway or public street except by a person who is duly authorized to operate a motor vehicle under this chapter.

(2) A person may not knowingly or willfully provide unauthorized assistance to an applicant for the examination required to hold a commercial driver license pursuant to s. 322.12(4).

(3) A ~~Any~~ person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. If a person violates this section by knowingly loaning a vehicle to a person whose driver license is suspended and if that vehicle is involved in an accident resulting in bodily injury or death, the driver license of the

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581 person violating this section must ~~shall~~ be suspended for 1
 582 year.

583 Section 8. Section 377.71, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
 584 Section 9. Section 377.711, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
 585 Section 10. Section 377.712, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
 586 Section 11. Present paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection
 587 (3) of section 403.0855, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 588 paragraphs (b) and (c), respectively, a new paragraph (a) is
 589 added to that subsection, and subsections (2) and (4) of that
 590 section are amended, to read:

591 403.0855 Biosolids management.—

592 (2) The department shall adopt rules for biosolids
 593 management. ~~Rules adopted by the department pursuant to this~~
 594 ~~section may not take effect until ratified by the Legislature.~~

595 (3) For a new land application site permit or a permit
 596 renewal issued after July 1, 2020, the permittee of a biosolids
 597 land application site shall:

598 (a) Ensure that only Class AA biosolids are applied to the
 599 soil.

600 ~~(4) All permits shall comply with the requirements of~~
 601 ~~subsection (3) by July 1, 2022.~~

602 Section 12. Subsections (20) and (21) are added to section
 603 489.105, Florida Statutes, to read:

604 489.105 Definitions.—As used in this part:

605 (20) "Subcontractor" has the same meaning as in s. 558.002.
 606 (21) "Supplier" has the same meaning as in s. 558.002.

607 Section 13. Section 489.1295, Florida Statutes, is created
 608 to read:

609 489.1295 Theft of subcontractor or supplier services.—

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610 (1) A person licensed as a contractor or who otherwise
 611 holds himself or herself out to be a contractor may not
 612 knowingly or willfully fail to compensate his or her
 613 subcontractors or suppliers without reasonable cause within 15
 614 business days after receiving payment for the services performed
 615 by the subcontractor or supplier.

616 (2) A person licensed as a contractor or who otherwise
 617 holds himself or herself out to be a contractor who violates
 618 this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree,
 619 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

620 (3) If a person licensed as a contractor or who otherwise
 621 holds himself or herself out to be a contractor violates this
 622 section and the services performed by the subcontractor or
 623 supplier are valued at \$20,000 or more, such person commits a
 624 felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.
 625 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

626 Section 14. Subsection (6) of section 500.04, Florida
 627 Statutes, is amended to read:

628 500.04 Prohibited acts.—The following acts and the causing
 629 thereof within the state are prohibited:

630 (6) The obstruction of or refusal to permit entry or
 631 inspection, or to permit the taking of a sample, as authorized
 632 by s. 500.147.

633 Section 15. Section 500.81, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

634 Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 500.93, Florida
 635 Statutes, is amended to read:

636 500.93 Mislabeling of plant-based products as milk, meat,
 637 or poultry.—

638 (5) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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shall notify the Division of Law Revision upon the enactment into law by any 11 of the group of 14 states composed of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and West Virginia of the mandatory labeling requirements pursuant to paragraphs (2) (a), (3) (a), and (4) (a) subsections (2) and (3).

Section 17. Section 501.013, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

501.013 Health studios; exemptions.—

(1) The following businesses or activities may be declared exempt from ~~the provisions of~~ ss. 501.012-501.019 upon the filing of an affidavit with the department establishing that the stated qualifications are met:

(a) (1) A bona fide nonprofit organization which has been granted tax-exempt status by the Internal Revenue Service.

(b) (2) A gymnastics school which engages only in instruction and training and in which exercise is only incidental to such instruction and training.

(c) (3) A golf, tennis, or racquetball club in which sports play is the only activity offered by the club. If the facility offers the use of physical exercise equipment, this exemption shall not apply.

(d) (4) A program or facility which is offered and used solely for the purpose of dance, aerobic exercise, or martial arts, and which utilizes no physical exercise equipment.

(e) (5) A country club that has as its primary function the provision of a social life and recreational amenities to its members, and for which a program of physical exercise is merely

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incidental to membership. As used in this paragraph subsection, the term "country club" means a facility that offers its members a variety of services that may include, but need not be limited to, social activities; dining, banquet, catering, and lounge facilities; swimming; yachting; golf; tennis; card games such as bridge and canasta; and special programs for members' children. Upon the filing of an affidavit with the department establishing that the stated qualifications of this paragraph subsection were met before July 1, 1997, this paragraph subsection will apply retroactively to the date that the country club met these qualifications.

(f) (6) A program or facility that is offered by an organization for the exclusive use of its employees and their family members.

(2) In addition to the businesses and activities listed in subsection (1), the department may exempt any other business or activity not in existence as of July 1, 2026, from ss. 501.012-501.019.

Section 18. Section 501.062, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

501.062 Unauthorized commercial solicitation; legislative intent; definitions; prohibited acts; penalties.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—It is the intent of the Legislature to protect, preserve, and promote the safety, welfare, and peace of the citizens of this state by adopting measures to reduce the threat to private property rights, including the right to exclude and to be free from trespass of unauthorized commercial solicitation on private property when noticed by the property owner. It is the intent of this section to protect such private

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property rights by creating a uniform standard for notifying individuals or groups of individuals that commercial solicitation is prohibited on private property.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Commercial solicitation" means the act of attempting to sell goods or services, or to raise funds for a commercial purpose, through direct or indirect contact with individuals, including, but not limited to, using words, body gestures, or signs, on behalf of a business or commercial entity.

(b) "Dwelling" has the same meaning as in s. 810.011(2).

(3) PROHIBITED ACTS.—A person may not engage in commercial solicitation on any dwelling that clearly and prominently displays a sign that is no less than 8.5 by 11 inches, is visible to any person approaching the dwelling, and clearly displays a statement which identifies the dwelling as private property on which commercial solicitation is prohibited, in substantially the following manner with letters at least 1 inch in height:

THIS DWELLING IS DESIGNATED PRIVATE PROPERTY. NO
COMMERCIAL SOLICITATION IS PERMITTED PURSUANT TO
SECTION 501.062, FLORIDA STATUTES.

(4) PENALTIES.—A person who violates subsection (3) commits a noncriminal violation, punishable as provided in s. 775.083. A person who commits a second or subsequent violation commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 19. Subsection (50) is added to section 570.07,

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Florida Statutes, to read:

570.07 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; functions, powers, and duties.—The department shall have and exercise the following functions, powers, and duties:

(50) Notwithstanding s. 20.04(7), to reorganize departmental units upon the approval of the commissioner.

Section 20. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (3) of section 570.822, Florida Statutes, to read:

570.822 Agriculture and Aquaculture Producers Emergency Recovery Loan Program.—

(3) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—To be eligible for the program, an applicant must:

(c) Be a United States citizen and a legal resident of this state before or on the date of the declared emergency. If the applicant is an entity as defined in s. 605.0102, the entity must be wholly owned and operated in the United States and possess an active certificate of status issued by the Department of State pursuant to chapter 605.

Section 21. Section 570.846, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

570.846 Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program.—

(1) PURPOSE.—To encourage specialized and qualified veterinary professionals to practice in this state, to retain the employment of such professionals in this state, and to promote the care and treatment of food animals intended for human consumption, there is established the Florida Food Animal Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program. The purpose of the program is to authorize the department to make payments that

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offset loans incurred, for up to three new eligible candidates annually, for studies leading to a veterinary degree with a specialization in food animal veterinary medicine.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Food animal" means a species of animal raised for the human food supply. Food animal species include cattle, swine, sheep, goat, poultry, aquaculture, and apiary species.

(b) "Food animal veterinarian" means a veterinarian working in food animal veterinary medicine who focuses on the management and health of food animals, and who spends a minimum of 20 hours per week on food animal species care and treatment.

(c) "Food animal veterinary medicine" means veterinary medical practice that encompasses medical care, disease prevention, and consultation on feeding, housing, and overall herd management of food animals to ensure a safe, healthy, and sustainable food supply for the public.

(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for the program, a candidate must have graduated from an American Veterinary Medical Association-accredited college of veterinary medicine, have received a Florida veterinary medical license, have obtained a Category II Accreditation from the United States Department of Agriculture, and be a practicing food animal veterinarian in this state.

(4) FUNDING.—Subject to legislative appropriation, the department may make loan principal repayments of up to \$25,000 a year for up to 5 years on behalf of eligible candidates. All repayments are contingent upon continued proof of employment in this state as a practicing food animal veterinarian.

(5) DUPLICATION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—An eligible

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candidate receiving financial assistance from the federal veterinary medicine loan repayment program as established in 7 U.S.C. part 3151a is ineligible to receive financial assistance from the program under this section.

(6) RULEMAKING.—The department may adopt any rule necessary for the administration of the program.

Section 22. Subsection (4) of section 583.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

583.01 Definitions.—For the purpose of this chapter, unless elsewhere indicated, the term:

(4) "Dealer" means a person, firm, or corporation, including a producer, processor, retailer, or wholesaler, that sells, offers for sale, or holds for the purpose of sale in this state 30 dozen or more eggs or its equivalent in any one week, or more than 20,000 ~~384~~ dressed birds annually ~~in any one week~~.

Section 23. Section 590.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

590.02 Florida Forest Service; powers, authority, and duties; liability; building structures; Withlacoochee and Welaka Training Centers ~~Center~~.—

(1) The Florida Forest Service has the following powers, authority, and duties to:

(a) Enforce the provisions of this chapter;

(b) Prevent, detect, and suppress wildfires wherever they may occur on public or private land in this state and do all things necessary in the exercise of such powers, authority, and duties;

(c) Provide firefighting crews, who shall be under the control and direction of the Florida Forest Service and its

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813 designated agents;

814 (d) Appoint center managers, forest area supervisors,
815 forestry program administrators, a forest protection bureau
816 chief, a forest protection assistant bureau chief, a field
817 operations bureau chief, deputy chiefs of field operations,
818 district managers, forest operations administrators, senior
819 forest rangers, investigators, forest rangers, firefighter
820 rotorcraft pilots, and other employees who may, at the Florida
821 Forest Service's discretion, be certified as forestry
822 firefighters pursuant to s. 633.408(8). Other law
823 notwithstanding, center managers, district managers, forest
824 protection assistant bureau chief, and deputy chiefs of field
825 operations have Selected Exempt Service status in the state
826 personnel designation;

827 (e) Develop a training curriculum for wildland firefighters
828 which must contain a minimum of 40 hours of structural
829 firefighter training, a minimum of 40 hours of emergency medical
830 training, and a minimum of 376 hours of wildfire training;

831 (f) Pay the cost of the initial commercial driver license
832 examination fee, and renewal, for those employees whose position
833 requires them to operate equipment requiring a license. This
834 paragraph is intended to be an authorization to the department
835 to pay such costs, not an obligation;

836 (g) Provide fire management services and emergency response
837 assistance and set and charge reasonable fees for performance of
838 those services. Moneys collected from such fees shall be
839 deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund of the Florida Forest
840 Service;

841 (h) Require all state, regional, and local government

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842 agencies operating aircraft in the vicinity of an ongoing
843 wildfire to operate in compliance with the applicable state
844 Wildfire Aviation Plan;

845 (i) Authorize broadcast burning, prescribed burning, pile
846 burning, and land clearing debris burning to carry out the
847 duties of this chapter and the rules adopted thereunder; and

848 (j) Make rules to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

849 (2) The Florida Forest Service's employees, and the
850 firefighting crews under their control and direction, may enter
851 upon any lands for the purpose of preventing, detecting, and
852 suppressing wildfires and investigating smoke complaints or open
853 burning not in compliance with authorization and to enforce the
854 provisions of this chapter.

855 (3) Employees of the Florida Forest Service and of federal,
856 state, and local agencies, and all other persons and entities
857 that are under contract or agreement with the Florida Forest
858 Service to assist in firefighting operations as well as those
859 entities, called upon by the Florida Forest Service to assist in
860 firefighting may, in the performance of their duties, set
861 counterfires, remove fences and other obstacles, dig trenches,
862 cut firelines, use water from public and private sources, and
863 carry on all other customary activities in the fighting of
864 wildfires without incurring liability to any person or entity.
865 The manner in which the Florida Forest Service monitors a
866 smoldering wildfire or smoldering prescribed fire or fights any
867 wildfire are planning level activities for which sovereign
868 immunity applies and is not waived.

869 (4) (a) The department may build structures, notwithstanding
870 chapters 216 and 255, not to exceed a cost of \$50,000 per

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871 structure from existing resources on forest lands, federal
 872 excess property, and unneeded existing structures. These
 873 structures must meet all applicable building codes.

874 (b) Notwithstanding s. 553.80(1), the department shall
 875 exclusively enforce the Florida Building Code as it pertains to
 876 wildfire, law enforcement, and other Florida Forest Service
 877 facilities under the jurisdiction of the department.

878 (5) The Florida Forest Service shall organize its
 879 operational units to most effectively prevent, detect, and
 880 suppress wildfires, and to that end, may employ the necessary
 881 personnel to manage its activities in each unit. The Florida
 882 Forest Service may construct lookout towers, roads, bridges,
 883 firelines, and other facilities and may purchase or fabricate
 884 tools, supplies, and equipment for firefighting. The Florida
 885 Forest Service may reimburse the public and private entities
 886 that it engages to assist in the suppression of wildfires for
 887 their personnel and equipment, including aircraft.

888 (6) The Florida Forest Service shall undertake
 889 privatization alternatives for fire prevention activities
 890 including constructing fire lines and conducting prescribed
 891 burns and, where appropriate, entering into agreements or
 892 contracts with the private sector to perform such activities.

893 (7) The Florida Forest Service may organize, staff, equip,
 894 and operate the Withlacoochee and Welaka Training Centers
 895 Center. The centers center shall serve as sites a site where
 896 fire and forest resource managers can obtain current knowledge,
 897 techniques, skills, and theory as they relate to their
 898 respective disciplines, and the centers:-

899 (a) ~~The center~~ May establish cooperative efforts involving

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900 federal, state, and local entities; hire appropriate personnel;
 901 and engage others by contract or agreement with or without
 902 compensation to assist in carrying out the training and
 903 operations of the centers center.

904 (b) ~~The center~~ Shall provide wildfire suppression training
 905 opportunities for rural fire departments, volunteer fire
 906 departments, and other local fire response units.

907 (c) ~~The center~~ Shall focus on curriculum related to, but
 908 not limited to, fuel reduction, an incident management system,
 909 prescribed burning certification, multiple-use land management,
 910 water quality, forest health, environmental education, and
 911 wildfire suppression training for structural firefighters.

912 (d) ~~The center~~ May assess appropriate fees for food,
 913 lodging, travel, course materials, and supplies in order to meet
 914 its operational costs and may grant free meals, room, and
 915 scholarships to persons and other entities as determined by the
 916 Florida Forest Service, regardless of whether training occurs at
 917 the Withlacoochee or Welaka Training Center or at another
 918 location in exchange for instructional assistance.

919 (8) (a) The Cross City Work Center shall be named the L.
 920 Earl Peterson Forestry Station. This is to honor Mr. L. Earl
 921 Peterson, Florida's sixth state forester, whose distinguished
 922 career in state government has spanned 44 years, and who is a
 923 native of Dixie County.

924 (b) The Madison Forestry Station shall be named the Harvey
 925 Greene Sr. Forestry Station. This is to honor Mr. Harvey Greene
 926 Sr., a World War I veteran and pioneer in forestry in Madison
 927 County. In 1947, Mr. Harvey Greene Sr. offered to give the land
 928 on which the forestry station is located to the state; however,

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at that time, the state could not accept donations of land. Instead, Mr. Harvey Greene Sr. sold the land to the state and, with the proceeds of the sale, purchased forestry equipment to be used by the citizens of Madison County to plant trees and fight wildfires.

(9) (a) Notwithstanding ss. 273.055 and 287.16, the department may retain, transfer, warehouse, bid, destroy, scrap, or otherwise dispose of surplus equipment and vehicles that are used for wildland firefighting.

(b) All money received from the disposition of state-owned equipment and vehicles that are used for wildland firefighting shall be retained by the department. Money received pursuant to this section is appropriated for and may be disbursed for the acquisition of exchange and surplus equipment used for wildland firefighting, and for all necessary operating expenditures related to such equipment, in the same fiscal year and the fiscal year following the disposition. The department shall maintain records of the accounts into which the money is deposited.

(10) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 252.38, the Florida Forest Service has exclusive authority to require and issue authorizations for broadcast burning and agricultural and silvicultural pile burning. An agency, commission, department, county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state may not adopt or enforce laws, regulations, rules, or policies pertaining to broadcast burning or agricultural and silvicultural pile burning.

(b) The Florida Forest Service may delegate to a county, municipality, or special district its authority:

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1. As delegated by the Department of Environmental Protection pursuant to ss. 403.061(29) and 403.081, to manage and enforce regulations pertaining to the burning of yard trash in accordance with s. 590.125(6).

2. To manage the open burning of land clearing debris in accordance with s. 590.125.

Section 24. Section 595.421, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

595.421 Farmers Feeding Florida Program.—There is established the Farmers Feeding Florida Program to coordinate with Feeding Florida, or its successor entity, for the acquisition, transportation, and distribution of non-Emergency Food Assistance Program fresh food products for the benefit of residents who are food insecure due to a lack of local food resources, accessibility, and affordability.

(1) In order to implement the program, Feeding Florida shall:

(a) Enter into an agreement with the department to provide, at a minimum, all of the following services:

1. Transportation of non-Emergency Food Assistance Program fresh food products using owned vehicles or contracted commercial vehicles.

2. Coordination of the purchase and pickup of food from the purchase location and delivery to the distribution location.

(b) Submit monthly reports to the department, beginning July 1, 2026, which include, at a minimum, all of the following:

1. A detailed record of the amount of food purchased, measured per pound and itemized according to its commodity type.

2. Food purchase locations.

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987 3. Food purchase dates.
 988 4. The date of delivery and locations to which the food was
 989 distributed.
 990 (c) Submit quarterly reports, beginning July 1, 2026, to
 991 the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees,
 992 including all of the following information:
 993 1. A detailed record of the amount of food distributed,
 994 measured per pound and itemized according to its commodity type.
 995 2. The distribution locations.
 996 3. An itemized list of the types of commodities
 997 distributed.
 998 (2) Foods purchased by Feeding Florida through the program
 999 are restricted to charitable purposes for hunger relief and may
 1000 not reenter the wholesale, retail, or secondary market.
 1001 (3) Feeding Florida may not, in implementing this section,
 1002 allow a candidate for elective office to host a food
 1003 distribution event during the period of time between the last
 1004 day of the election qualifying period and the date of the
 1005 election if the candidate is opposed for election or reelection
 1006 at the time of the event. This subsection does not apply if the
 1007 event is in response to a declared state of emergency.
 1008 Section 25. Present paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of
 1009 section 597.004, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph
 1010 (d) and amended, a new paragraph (c) is added to that
 1011 subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of that section
 1012 is amended, to read:
 1013 597.004 Aquaculture certificate of registration.—
 1014 (2) RULES.—
 1015 (a) The department, in consultation with the Department of

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1016 Environmental Protection, the water management districts,
 1017 environmental groups, and representatives from the affected
 1018 farming groups, shall adopt rules to:
 1019 1. Specify the requirement of best management practices to
 1020 be implemented by holders of aquaculture certificates of
 1021 registration.
 1022 2. Establish procedures for holders of aquaculture
 1023 certificates of registration to submit the notice of intent to
 1024 comply with best management practices.
 1025 3. Establish schedules for implementation of best
 1026 management practices, and of interim measures that can be taken
 1027 prior to adoption of best management practices. Interim measures
 1028 may include the continuation of regulatory requirements in
 1029 effect on June 30, 1998.
 1030 4. Establish a system to assure the implementation of best
 1031 management practices, including recordkeeping requirements.
 1032 5. Require any facility that cultures *Micropterus salmoides*
 1033 ~~floridanus~~ to maintain stock acquisition documentation or
 1034 records of genetic testing.
 1035 (7) REGISTRATION AND RENEWALS.—
 1036 (c) The department may not renew a certificate of
 1037 registration for a facility that is not compliant with this
 1038 section unless documentation of corrective action is provided
 1039 with the renewal application.
 1040 (d) ~~(e)~~ A ~~Any~~ person whose certificate of registration has
 1041 been revoked or suspended must reapply to the department for
 1042 certification. A person, a company, or an entity, or a principal
 1043 of a company or an entity whose certificate of registration has
 1044 been revoked, may not reapply for a period of 3 years.

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Section 26. Paragraph (a) of subsection (5) of section 597.010, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

597.010 Shellfish regulation; leases.—

(5) LEASES IN PERPETUITY; RENT.—

(a) All leases issued previously under ~~the provisions of s. 379.2525~~ shall be enforced under the authority of this chapter, notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, and shall continue in perpetuity under such restrictions as stated in the lease agreement. The annual rental fee charged for all leases shall consist of the minimum rate of \$15 per acre, or any fraction of an acre, per year and may ~~shall~~ be adjusted on January 1, 1995, and every 5 years thereafter, based on the 5-year average change in the Consumer Price Index. Rent must ~~shall~~ be paid in advance of January 1 of each year or, in the case of a new lease, at the time of signing, regardless of who holds the lease.

Section 27. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of section 599.012, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

599.012 Florida Wine Trust Fund; creation.—

(1) There is established the Florida Wine Trust Fund within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. The department shall use the moneys deposited in the trust fund pursuant to subsection (2) to do all the following:

(b) Promote wine viticulture products manufactured from products grown in the state.

(c) Provide grants for wine and viticultural research.

Section 28. Section 616.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.001 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the term:

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(1) "Annual public fair" means a ~~community, county, district, regional, or state~~ fair that is held and conducted by a fair association and permitted by the department pursuant to s. 616.15.

(2) "Authority" means the Florida State Fair Authority.

(3) ~~"Community fair" means an annual public fair that serves an area of less than an entire county, has exhibits that are in accordance with s. 616.17, and gives premiums or awards to exhibitors. Agricultural products shall be produced in the community the exhibit represents. The majority of the board of directors of the fair shall reside, be employed, or operate a business in the community the fair represents.~~

~~(4)~~ "Concession" means use by a fair association, or a grant, lease, or license to a third party, of a portion of the land under the ownership, custody, or control of a fair association for specific uses, such as providing rides, games, food, beverage, merchandise for sale, exhibits, projects, activities, events, programs, or other uses authorized in this chapter.

~~(5) "County fair" means an annual public fair that serves an entire county and provides exhibitors with premiums or awards for exhibits that are in accordance with s. 616.17. Agricultural products must be typical of those produced in the county the exhibit represents. The majority of the board of directors of the fair shall reside, be employed, or operate a business in the county that the fair association represents.~~

~~(4)~~ (6) "Department" means the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

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1103 ~~(7) "District fair" means an annual public fair that serves~~
 1104 ~~at least five counties and has exhibits that meet the~~
 1105 ~~requirements of s. 616.17. A district fair shall pay at least~~
 1106 ~~\$25,000 in cash premiums or awards to exhibitors. Agricultural~~
 1107 ~~products must be typical of those produced in the counties the~~
 1108 ~~exhibit represents. Livestock may originate from outside the~~
 1109 ~~district, but must be registered in the exhibitor's name at~~
 1110 ~~least 30 days before the opening day of the fair. Each county is~~
 1111 ~~encouraged to have proportionate exhibits, typical of its~~
 1112 ~~respective natural resources. Each county shall have exhibits~~
 1113 ~~representing basic resources in agriculture and industry.~~
 1114 (5)(8) "Entry" means one item entered for competition or
 1115 show. An entry may constitute an exhibit, depending upon the
 1116 regulations stated in the premium book.
 1117 (6)(9) "Exhibit" means one or more entries entered for
 1118 exhibition and constituting a unit. An exhibit may consist of
 1119 one or more entries, depending upon the regulations stated in
 1120 the premium book. The term includes parades and displays of
 1121 articles or a collection of articles, whether static,
 1122 interactive, or dynamic, by a fair association or a third party
 1123 contracting with a fair association, such as exhibits of
 1124 animals, art, housewares, or motor vehicles.
 1125 (7)(10) "Exhibitor" means an individual, a group of
 1126 individuals, or a business, including a fair association or
 1127 third party contracting with a fair association, which has an
 1128 exhibit.
 1129 (8)(11) "Fair association" or "association" means an
 1130 association not for profit incorporated under this chapter for
 1131 the purpose of conducting and operating public fairs or

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1132 expositions.
 1133 (9)(12) "Public fair or exposition" means a project,
 1134 activity, event, or program, and use by a fair association,
 1135 including, but not limited to, the annual public fair, which
 1136 serves the purposes specified in s. 616.08 and benefits and
 1137 develops the educational, agricultural, horticultural,
 1138 livestock, charitable, historical, civic, cultural, scientific,
 1139 and other resources of this state, or any county, municipality,
 1140 or other community in this state.
 1141 ~~(13) "Regional fair" or "interstate fair" means an annual~~
 1142 ~~public fair of this state and other states in which fair~~
 1143 ~~exhibits meet the requirements of s. 616.17. Agricultural~~
 1144 ~~products must be typical of those produced in the area the~~
 1145 ~~exhibit represents.~~
 1146 (10)(14) "Specialized show" means a show or an exhibition
 1147 exhibiting and emphasizing livestock or poultry, or a fruit or
 1148 vegetable festival, and must meet the minimum exhibit
 1149 requirements specified in s. 616.17. ~~A specialized show may~~
 1150 ~~qualify under one of the definitions in subsections (3), (5),~~
 1151 ~~(7), and (15).~~
 1152 (11)(15) "State fair" means an annual public fair that
 1153 serves the entire state. ~~Exhibits must comply with s. 616.17,~~
 1154 ~~and cash premiums or awards may be given to exhibitors.~~
 1155 Section 29. Section 616.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 1156 read:
 1157 616.01 Requirements for Number of persons required,
 1158 ~~requisites of proposed charter. Twenty-five or more persons who~~
 1159 ~~are~~ Residents and qualified electors of the county in which the
 1160 annual public fair is to be located, who wish to form an

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association not for profit for the purpose of conducting and operating public fairs or expositions, may become incorporated in the following manner. The ~~applicant must subscribers shall~~ submit the proposed charter to the department for review and approval or denial. If the proposed charter is denied, the department must provide the applicant with a letter sent to the mailing address provided on the proposed charter and include a complete listing of all deficiencies, if any, which must be remedied before resubmittal of the proposed charter for approval. If the proposed charter is approved, the applicant must subscribers shall sign and present a notarized copy of the proposed charter to the judge of the circuit court for the county in which the principal office of the association will be located. The proposed charter must specify:

(1) The name of the association and the place where the principal office is to be located. The name of the association must shall include the word, "Inc."

(2) The general nature of the objectives and powers of the association, including a provision that the association is incorporated for the sole purpose of conducting and operating public fairs or expositions.

(3) The qualifications and terms of association members and criteria for their admission and expulsion. Provision must may be made in the charter for ex officio membership.

(4) The time for which the association is to exist.

(5) The name and residence of each subscriber.

(6) Procedures for the election of and governance by officers, who may be elected or appointed.

(7) The designation of officers who will manage the affairs

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of the association until the first election or appointment under the charter.

(8) Procedures for the adoption, amendment, or rescission of bylaws of the association.

(9) The highest amount of indebtedness or liability that may be accrued by the association.

(10) The name an elected member of the board of county commissioners of the county in which the principal office of the association will be located, who will serve as an ex officio member of the board of directors the association.

(11) The official e-mail address of the association which will be used for the purpose of official communication between the association and governmental entities.

(12) The language for the oath that will be taken by the applicant, which must include, but is not limited to, all of the following:

(a) That the primary objective of the association is for public service and to hold, conduct, and promote public fairs or expositions.

(b) That money and other available assets in value exceeding \$5,000 have been provided for purposes designated by the association.

(c) That the association will operate in good faith to carry out the purposes and objectives set forth in the charter.

Section 30. Section 616.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.02 Fair associations per county ~~Acknowledgment of charter.-~~

(1) Beginning July 1, 2026, there may be only one

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~~incorporated fair association per county in this state, excluding the state fair, which may be incorporated and conducted in any county. The department may not approve a proposed charter incorporating a fair association within the same county in which a fair association currently exists. The department may waive this requirement at the discretion of the Commissioner of Agriculture.~~

(2) Any fair association incorporated before July 1, 2026, may conduct public fairs or expositions and exercise the authority provided to them pursuant to this chapter ~~The proposed charter of a fair association shall be acknowledged by at least three of its subscribers before an officer authorized to make acknowledgment of deeds. Subscribers shall also make and take an oath, which must be attached to the proposed charter, stating that the primary objective of the association is public service and holding, conducting, and promoting public fairs or expositions; that money and other available assets in value exceeding \$5,000 have been provided for the purposes of the association; and that the association will operate in good faith to carry out the purposes and objectives set forth in its charter.~~

Section 31. Section 616.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.03 ~~Notice of application; Approval and record of charter. Upon approval by the department, A notice of intention to apply to the circuit court for the charter of a fair association must specify the date that application will be made, shall be sent to the department for approval, and shall be published in a newspaper in the county where the principal~~

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~~office of the association will be located once each week for 4 consecutive weeks. The notice must briefly summarize the charter and objectives of the proposed association. the proposed charter must ~~shall~~ be submitted to and approved by the board of county commissioners of the county in which the principal office of the association will be located. After approval by the ~~department~~ and the board of county commissioners, the proposed charter and proof of approval must ~~and publication shall~~ be submitted to the circuit judge ~~on the date specified in the notice~~. If no cause is shown to the contrary and the judge finds that the proposed charter is in proper form and will serve the primary objective of public service, the judge must ~~shall~~ approve the charter and issue an order incorporating the applicant ~~subscribers~~ under the charter for the objectives and purposes specified in the charter. The charter and order of incorporation must ~~shall~~ be recorded in the office of the clerk of the circuit court in the county where the principal office of the association will be located and provided to the department. After the order is recorded, the applicant ~~subscribers~~ and any ~~their~~ associates are incorporated with the objectives and powers established in the charter and under the name given in the charter. ~~During the publication period, the proposed charter shall be on file in the office of the clerk of the circuit court.~~ This section does not preclude a fair association from also filing its duly approved charter with the Department of State pursuant to chapter 617 for notice purposes.~~

Section 32. Subsection (2) of section 616.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.05 Amendment of charter.—A fair association may propose

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an amendment to its charter by resolution as provided in its charter or bylaws.

(2) After the department approves the proposed amendment, it will be incorporated into the original charter upon:

(a) ~~Publication of notice in the same manner as provided in s. 616.03;~~

~~(b)~~ Filing the order of the circuit judge approving the amendment with the office of the clerk of the circuit court and the department; and

(b)(c) Being recorded in the clerk's office.

If a fair association has filed its charter with the Department of State pursuant to chapter 617, a copy of any amendment to the charter must be filed with the Department of State for notice purposes.

Section 33. Section 616.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.051 Dissolving a charter.—

(1) A fair association may dissolve its charter by resolution as provided in its charter or bylaws. The proposal for dissolving the charter shall be submitted to the department for approval.

(2) Upon approval by the department and upon presentation of sufficient evidence demonstrating and publication of notice and proof that all indebtedness has been paid and no claims are outstanding against the association, the circuit judge may, by decree, dissolve the association and order the distribution of its remaining assets. Such assets must be distributed, by resolution of the board of directors, to the county in which the

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principal office of the association is located unless otherwise specified by the deed of the property held by the association
~~its remaining public funds to be distributed as recommended by the board of directors.~~

Section 34. Subsection (3) of section 616.07, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (1) and (2) of that section are republished, to read:

616.07 Members not personally liable; property of association held in trust; exempt from taxation.—

(1) A member, officer, director, or trustee of a fair association is not personally liable for any of the debts of the association, and money or property of a fair association may not be distributed as profits or dividends among its members, officers, directors, or trustees.

(2) All money and property of the association, except that necessary for the payment of its just debts and liabilities, are public property, shall be administered by the association as trustee, and shall be used exclusively for the legitimate purpose of the association. So long as they are used for that purpose, all money and property of the association are exempt from all forms of taxation, including special assessments, and any projects, activities, events, programs, and uses authorized by this part serve an essential governmental purpose and, therefore, are not taxable and are not subject to assessments. This subsection does not apply to chapter 212.

~~(3) Upon order of the circuit judge, any public funds or property remaining in a fair association when the association is dissolved shall be distributed by resolution of the board of directors to any county or any municipality within the county.~~

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~~The board may designate in the distribution resolution the public project that will benefit from the funds or the manner in which the property will be used. If property has been contributed by a municipality or county, the property shall be reconveyed to the municipality or county that gave the property to the association.~~

Section 35. Section 616.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.101 Annual review of accounts and records; review of charter.—

(1) The accounts and records of a every fair association whose annual public fair has an annual attendance of more than 25,000, based upon recorded attendance from the previous year, ~~must shall~~ be reviewed annually by a qualified accountant licensed by the state. A fair association whose annual public fair has an annual attendance of 25,000 or fewer, based upon recorded attendance from the previous year, or a fair association that is holding an annual public fair for the first time, must submit an annual financial statement that has been signed by an officer of the county. The results of the reviews ~~must shall~~ be kept in the official records of each association, available to all directors of the association. A certified copy of the review ~~must shall~~ be filed with the department:

(a)(1) On request by the department to certify expenditures of the premiums awarded to exhibitors of a fair or of building funds ~~if when~~ there is evidence of a violation of state laws; or

(b)(2) When the association is applying for a fair permit.

(2) A fair association shall, every 5 years beginning July 1, 2026, review its charter and submit to the department a

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certified copy of the charter which incorporates any amendment made during the last 5 years. A designated member of the association shall attest that the charter is accurate and factual when submitting the certified copy to the department.

Section 36. Section 616.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.15 Permit from Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services required.—

(1) An annual public fair may not be conducted by a fair association without a permit issued by the department. The association shall present to the department an application for a permit, signed by an officer of the association, at least 90 calendar days ~~3 months~~ before holding the annual public fair. The application must shall be accompanied by a fee in an amount to be determined by the department for processing the application and making any required investigation. The application fee must be at least \$183 and may not exceed \$366. Fees collected under this subsection shall be deposited in the General Inspection Trust Fund of the State Treasury in a special account to be known as the "Agricultural and Livestock Fair Account." A copy of the application must be sent to each fair association located within 50 miles of the site of the proposed annual public fair at the same time the application is sent to the department. The department may issue a permit if the applicant provides:

(a) The opening and closing dates of the proposed annual public fair.

(b) The name and address of the owner of the central amusement attraction that will operate during the annual public

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1393 fair.

1394 (c) An affidavit properly executed by the president or
 1395 chief executive officer of the applicant association certifying
 1396 the existence of a binding contract entered into by the
 1397 association and the owner of the central amusement attraction
 1398 covering the period for which the permit from the department is
 1399 applied. The contract between the parties ~~must~~ shall be
 1400 available for inspection by duly authorized agents of the
 1401 department in administering this chapter.

1402 (d) A copy of the association's charter which incorporates
 1403 all amendments made ~~A written statement that the main purpose of~~
 1404 ~~the association is to conduct and operate a public fair and~~
 1405 ~~exposition, including the annual fair, for the benefit and~~
 1406 ~~development of the educational, agricultural, horticultural,~~
 1407 ~~livestock, charitable, historical, civic, cultural, scientific,~~
 1408 ~~and other resources of the geographical area the fair~~
 1409 ~~association represents and serves. The statement must be~~
 1410 ~~subscribed and acknowledged by an officer of the association~~
 1411 ~~before an officer authorized to take acknowledgments.~~

1412 (e) A premium list of the current annual public fair to be
 1413 conducted ~~and~~ ~~or~~ a copy of the previous year's premium list
 1414 showing all premiums and awards to be offered to exhibitors in
 1415 various departments of the annual public fair, which may
 1416 include, but are not limited to, art exhibition, beef cattle,
 1417 county exhibits, dairy cattle, horticulture, swine, women's
 1418 department, 4-H Club activities, Future Farmers of America
 1419 activities, Future Homemakers of America activities, poultry and
 1420 egg exhibits, and community exhibits. The premium list, which
 1421 may be submitted separately from the application, must be

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1422 submitted at least 60 calendar days before the annual public
 1423 fair begins operation.

1424 (f) A complete listing of all exhibits required pursuant to
 1425 s. 616.17 ~~Proof of liability insurance insuring the association~~
 1426 ~~against liability for injury to persons, in an amount of not~~
 1427 ~~less than \$300,000 per occurrence.~~

1428 ~~(g) A copy of the most recent review.~~

1429 ~~(h) A list of all current members of the board of directors~~
 1430 ~~of the association and their contact information, including home~~
 1431 ~~address.~~

1432
 1433 The department shall issue the permit within 10 calendar days
 1434 after it receives all the information required by this
 1435 subsection and the applicant qualifies pursuant to this section.

1436 (2) At least 21 calendar days before holding the annual
 1437 public fair, the association shall present the department with
 1438 all of the following information:

1439 (a) Proof of liability insurance insuring the association
 1440 against liability for injury to persons, in an amount not less
 1441 than \$300,000 per occurrence.

1442 (b) A copy of the association's most recent annual
 1443 financial statement pursuant to s. 616.101.

1444 (c) A list of all current members of the board of directors
 1445 of the association and their contact information, including home
 1446 addresses.

1447 ~~(3)(2)~~ The department shall administer and enforce ~~the~~
 1448 ~~provisions of~~ this chapter except as to the regulation of games,
 1449 which shall be regulated by local law enforcement agencies. The
 1450 department shall adopt rules to administer this chapter,

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including rules governing the form and contents of the application for the permit and any reports that it ~~deems~~ may ~~deem~~ necessary in enforcing the provisions of this chapter.

(4)(3) Notwithstanding any fair association meeting the requirements set forth in subsection (1), the department may order a full investigation to determine if the fair association meets the requirements of this part ~~s. 616.01~~, and may withhold a permit from, deny a permit to, or withdraw a permit once issued to the association. The department shall also consider whether any proposed annual public fair, as set forth in an application for a permit, will compete with another annual public fair within 50 miles of the proposed annual public fair with respect to name, dates of operation, or market. The department may deny, withhold, or withdraw a permit from a fair association if the department determines that such fair association will compete with another association. The department shall give preference to existing fair associations with established dates, locations, and names. The determination by the department is final.

Section 37. Section 616.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

616.251 Florida State Fair Authority; creation; responsibility for staging annual state fair; exemptions.—

(1) There is created and constituted the "Florida State Fair Authority," a public body corporate and politic, for the purposes and with the powers set forth in this part. Such instrumentality, hereinafter referred to as "the authority," shall have perpetual succession. For the purposes of implementing the intent of this part, the authority shall be

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considered an instrumentality of the state, subject to the jurisdiction of the state. Any conflict with respect to that jurisdiction will be resolved by the authority and respective state agencies.

(2) The authority shall operate under the supervision of the Commissioner of Agriculture, which supervision may include, but is not limited to, assisting, advising, and making recommendations regarding the financing and operation of the authority. In assisting and advising the authority, the Commissioner of Agriculture may make appropriate staff of the department available to the authority.

(3) The authority is charged with the responsibility of staging an annual fair to serve the entire state. Cash premiums or awards may be given to exhibitors.

(4) The authority shall be exempt from part I of this chapter.

(5)(4) The principal offices of the authority shall be in such place or places in or near the City of Tampa as the authority may from time to time designate.

Section 38. Subsection (1) of section 843.085, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) of that section is republished, to read:

843.085 Unlawful use of badges or other indicia of authority.—

(1) It is unlawful for any person, unless appointed by the Governor pursuant to chapter 354, authorized by the appropriate agency, or displayed in a closed or mounted case as a collection or exhibit, to wear or display any authorized indicia of authority, including any badge, insignia, emblem, identification

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card, or uniform, or any colorable imitation thereof, of any federal, state, county, or municipal law enforcement agency, or other criminal justice agency as defined in s. 943.045, with the intent to mislead or cause another person to believe that he or she is a member of that agency or is authorized to display or wear such item, or to wear or display any item that displays in any manner or combination the word or words "police," "patrolman," "patrolwoman," "agent," "sheriff," "deputy," "trooper," "highway patrol," "commission officer," "Wildlife Officer," "Department of Environmental Protection officer," "Marine Patrol Officer," "state attorney," "public defender," "marshal," "constable," "bailiff," ~~or~~ "fire department," "concealed weapon permit," or "concealed weapon permitholder" with the intent to mislead or cause another person to believe that he or she is a member of that agency, if applicable, or is authorized to wear or display such item.

(5) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. This section is cumulative to any law now in force in the state.

Section 39. Section 865.065, Florida Statutes, is reordered and amended to read:

865.065 Disparagement of ~~perishable~~ agricultural food products; cause of action; limitation.—

(1) The Legislature finds, determines, and declares that the production of agricultural food products constitutes an important and significant portion of the state economy and that it is imperative to protect the vitality of the agricultural economy for the citizens of this state by providing a cause of

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action for agricultural producers to recover damages for the disparagement of any ~~perishable~~ agricultural product.

(2) For purposes of this section, the term:

~~(b) (a)~~ "Disparagement" means the willful or malicious dissemination to the public in any manner of any false information that a perishable agricultural food product is not safe for human consumption. False information is that information which is not based on reliable, scientific facts and reliable, scientific data which the disseminator knows or should have known to be false.

~~(a) (b)~~ "Perishable Agricultural food product" means any agricultural or aquacultural food product or commodity grown or produced within this the state for a commercial purpose. The term also includes any agricultural practices used in the production of such products of Florida which is sold or distributed in a form that will perish or decay within a reasonable period of time.

(c) "Producer" means the person who actually grows or produces ~~perishable~~ agricultural food products.

(3) Any producer or any association representing producers of ~~perishable~~ agricultural food products which suffers damages as a result of another person's disparagement of any such ~~perishable~~ agricultural food product may bring an action for damages and for any other relief a court of competent jurisdiction deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, compensatory and punitive damages, reasonable attorney fees, and costs of the action.

(4) The statute of limitations for disparagement of ~~perishable~~ agricultural food products is 2 years from the date

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the disparagement occurs.

Section 40. Subsection (27) is added to section 934.02, Florida Statutes, to read:

934.02 Definitions.—As used in this chapter:

(27) "Signal jamming device" means a device or process, such as a phone jammer, global positioning systems blocker, or other similar device designed to intentionally block, jam, or interfere with radio communications, such as cellular and personal communication services, police radar, or global positioning systems.

Section 41. Section 934.51, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

934.51 Possession, use, and sale of signal jamming device; prohibition; exceptions; penalties.—

(1) PROHIBITION.—It is unlawful to possess, manufacture, hold or offer for sale, sell, import, distribute, or use a signal jamming device in this state.

(2) EXCEPTIONS.—This section does not apply to a federal or military law enforcement agency that lawfully installs, places, or uses a signal jamming device as part of a criminal investigation, or to any person duly authorized by the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) PENALTIES.—A person who violates this section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 42. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) and subsection (6) of section 288.1175, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

288.1175 Agriculture education and promotion facility.—

(4) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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shall certify a facility as an agriculture education and promotion facility if the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services determines that:

(a) The applicant is a unit of local government as defined in s. 218.369, or a fair association as defined in s. 616.001(8) ~~s. 616.001(11)~~, which is responsible for the planning, design, permitting, construction, renovation, management, and operation of the agriculture education and promotion facility or holds title to the property on which such facility is to be developed and located.

(6) Funds may not be expended to develop or subsidize privately owned facilities, except for facilities owned by fair associations as defined in s. 616.001(8) ~~s. 616.001(11)~~.

Section 43. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 287.1351, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (4) of section 287.056, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

287.056 Purchases from purchasing agreements and state term contracts; vendor disqualification.—

(4) A firm or individual placed on the suspended vendor list pursuant to s. 287.1351 or placed on a disqualified vendor list pursuant to s. 287.133 or s. 287.134 is immediately disqualified from state term contract eligibility.

Section 44. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 287.1351, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (5) of section 287.138, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

287.138 Contracting with entities of foreign countries of concern prohibited.—

13-00419A-26

2026290

(5) The Attorney General may bring a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction against an entity that violates this section. Violations of this section may result in:

(a) A civil penalty equal to twice the amount of the contract for which the entity submitted a bid or proposal for, replied to, or entered into;

(b) Ineligibility to enter into, renew, or extend any contract, including any grant agreements, with any governmental entity for up to 5 years;

(c) Ineligibility to receive or renew any license, certification, or credential issued by a governmental entity for up to 5 years; and

(d) Placement on the suspended vendor list pursuant to s. 287.1351.

Section 45. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 500.04, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 500.177, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

500.177 Penalty for violation of s. 500.04; dissemination of false advertisement.—

(1) Any person who violates any provision of s. 500.04 is guilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083; but, if the violation is committed after a conviction of such person under this section has become final, such person is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 46. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 616.07, Florida Statutes, in a

13-00419A-26

2026290

reference thereto, subsection (13) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.

(13) LIMITATIONS ON EXEMPTIONS.—No transactions shall be exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter except those expressly exempted herein. All laws granting tax exemptions, to the extent they may be inconsistent or in conflict with this chapter, including, but not limited to, the following designated laws, shall yield to and be superseded by the provisions of this subsection: ss. 125.019, 153.76, 154.2331, 159.15, 159.31, 159.50, 159.708, 163.385, 163.395, 215.76, 243.33, 315.11, 348.65, 348.762, 349.13, 403.1834, 616.07, and 623.09, and the following Laws of Florida, acts of the year indicated: s. 31, chapter 30843, 1955; s. 19, chapter 30845, 1955; s. 12, chapter 30927, 1955; s. 8, chapter 31179, 1955; s. 15, chapter 31263, 1955; s. 13, chapter 31343, 1955; s. 16, chapter 59-1653; s. 13, chapter 59-1356; s. 12, chapter 61-2261; s. 19, chapter 61-2754; s. 10, chapter 61-2686; s. 11, chapter 63-1643; s. 11, chapter 65-1274; s. 16, chapter 67-1446; and s. 10, chapter 67-1681. This subsection does not supersede the authority of a local government to adopt financial and local government incentives pursuant to s. 163.2517.

Section 47. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment made by this act to section 616.15, Florida Statutes, in a

13-00419A-26 2026290

reference thereto, section 616.185, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

616.185 Trespass upon grounds or facilities of public fair; penalty; arrests.—

(1) For the purposes of this chapter, trespass upon the grounds of the Florida State Fair Authority or any other fair association permitted under s. 616.15 means:

(a) Entering and remaining upon any grounds or facilities owned, operated, or controlled by the Florida State Fair Authority or any other association permitted under s. 616.15 and committing any act that disrupts the orderly conduct of any authorized activity of the fair association in charge, or its lessees, licensees, or the general public on those grounds or facilities; or

(b) Entering and remaining on those grounds or facilities after being directed not to enter or to leave them by the executive director of the authority, chief administrative officer of the fair association, or any employee or agent of the association designated by the executive director or administrator to maintain order on those grounds and facilities, after a determination by the executive director, administrator, employee, or agent that the entering or remaining on those grounds or facilities is in violation of the rules and regulations of the Florida State Fair Authority or permitted fair association or is disrupting the orderly conduct of any authorized activity of the fair association in charge, or its lessees, licensees, or the general public on those grounds or facilities.

(2) Any person committing the offense of trespass upon the

13-00419A-26 2026290

grounds of the Florida State Fair Authority or any other fair association permitted under s. 616.15 commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(3) A law enforcement officer may arrest any person on or off the premises, without a warrant, if the officer has probable cause for believing such person has committed the offense of trespass upon the grounds of the Florida State Fair Authority or any fair association permitted under s. 616.15. Such an arrest does not render the law enforcement officer criminally or civilly liable for false arrest, false imprisonment, or unlawful detention.

Section 48. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Agriculture

BILL: SB 386

INTRODUCER: Senator Trumbull

SUBJECT: Farm Equipment

DATE: December 1, 2025

REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Becker	Becker	AG	Pre-meeting
2. _____	_____	CM	_____
3. _____	_____	RC	_____

I. Summary:

SB 386 creates a process for consumers and manufacturers to remedy defective farm equipment.

If farm equipment is defective and does not conform to all applicable express written warranties, the bill permits a consumer to report the defect to the manufacturer or its authorized service agent during the manufacturer's warranty period or during the 1-year period following the original delivery date to allow the manufacturer or its authorized agent the opportunity to conform the equipment to the warranty.

The bill requires a manufacturer to replace defective farm equipment with comparable farm equipment or accept the return of the defective equipment from the consumer and refund the consumer the purchase price and related fees if the manufacturer or its authorized dealer cannot or otherwise fails to conform the farm equipment to any applicable express written warranty. This does not limit or impair the rights or remedies which are otherwise available to a consumer under chapter 681.

The bill is effective July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Current law provides that notwithstanding any other law, ordinance, rule, or policy to the contrary, all power-drawn, power-driven, or self-propelled equipment used on a farm or used to transport farm products may be stored, maintained, or repaired by the owner within the boundaries of the owner's farm and at least 50 feet away from any public road without limitation.¹

¹ Section 604.40, F.S.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 604.40, F.S., to provide a process for protection against defective farm equipment. The bill defines “farm equipment” to mean all power-drawn, power-driven, or self-propelled equipment used on a farm or to transport farm products.

If farm equipment is defective and does not conform to all applicable express written warranties, the bill permits a consumer to report the defect to the manufacturer or its authorized service agent during the manufacturer’s warranty period or during the 1-year period following the original delivery date of the equipment to the consumer to allow the manufacturer or its authorized agent the opportunity to conform the equipment to the warranty. Upon receipt of such report, the manufacturer or its authorized agent shall make such repairs as are necessary to conform the equipment to the warranty at no cost to the customer.

The bill requires the manufacturer or its authorized agent to replace the farm equipment with comparable farm equipment, or accept the return of the defective equipment from the consumer and refund the consumer the cash purchase price, including sales tax, license fees, registration fees, and any similar governmental charges if the manufacturer or its authorized dealer is not able to or otherwise fails to conform the farm equipment to any applicable express written warranty after a reasonable number of attempts.

It is presumed that the manufacturer has made a reasonable number of attempts to conform the farm equipment to the applicable express warranties if the same nonconformity has been the subject of repair three or more times by the manufacturer or its authorized agent, but the nonconformity continues to exist. This presumption only applies when the manufacturer or its authorized agent has received prior direct written notification from or on behalf of the consumer and has been offered an opportunity to cure the alleged defect.

The bill provides that it is an affirmative defense to any claim under this chapter that an alleged nonconformity does not substantially impair the farm equipment’s use and market value or a nonconformity is the result of abuse or neglect, or of modifications or alterations of the farm equipment not authorized by the manufacturer.

This does not limit or impair the rights or remedies which are otherwise available to a consumer under chapter 681. Further, any consumer who suffers a loss by reason of a violation of this chapter may bring a civil action to enforce such provision.

Section 2 provides that the bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Owners of defective farm equipment will have a process for remedy should this bill pass.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 604.40 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Trumbull

2-00198-26

2026386

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to farm equipment; amending s. 604.40, F.S.; defining the term "farm equipment"; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; authorizing a consumer to report farm equipment that is defective and does not conform to specified warranties to the manufacturer or its authorized service agent during a specified timeframe to allow the manufacturer or its authorized agent to conform such farm equipment to such warranty; requiring the manufacturer or its authorized agent to make such repairs to conform the farm equipment to the warranty upon receipt of such report; requiring that such repairs be at no cost to the consumer; requiring the manufacturer or its authorized agent to replace or accept the return of the defective farm equipment under certain circumstances; providing a presumption; providing for the nonapplicability of the presumption; providing affirmative defenses; providing civil remedies; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 604.40, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

604.40 Farm equipment; protection against defective farm equipment.-

(1) As used in this section, the term "farm equipment" means all power-drawn, power-driven, or self-propelled equipment

Page 1 of 3

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

2-00198-26

2026386

used on a farm or used to transport farm products.

(2) Notwithstanding any other law, ordinance, rule, or policy to the contrary, ~~farm equipment all power-drawn, power-driven, or self-propelled equipment used on a farm or used to transport farm products~~ may be stored, maintained, or repaired by the owner within the boundaries of the owner's farm and at least 50 feet away from any public road without limitation.

~~(2)~~ This subsection ~~section~~ does not apply to farm equipment ~~that is~~ used in urban agriculture, as defined in s. 604.73(3).

(3) (a) If farm equipment is defective and does not conform to all applicable express written warranties, the consumer may report the defect to the manufacturer or its authorized service agent during the manufacturer's warranty period or during the 1-year period following the original delivery date of the farm equipment to the consumer to allow the manufacturer or its authorized agent the opportunity to conform the farm equipment to the warranty. Upon receipt of such report, the manufacturer or its authorized agent shall make such repairs as are necessary to conform the equipment to the warranty. Such repairs shall be at no cost to the consumer.

(b) The manufacturer or its authorized agent shall replace the farm equipment with comparable farm equipment, or accept the return of the defective farm equipment from the consumer and refund the consumer the cash purchase price, including sales tax, license fees, registration fees, and any similar governmental charges if the manufacturer or its authorized dealer is not able to or otherwise fails to conform the farm equipment to any applicable express written warranty after a

Page 2 of 3

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

2-00198-26

2026386__

59 reasonable number of attempts.

60 (c) It is presumed that the manufacturer has made a
61 reasonable number of attempts to conform the farm equipment to
62 the applicable express warranties if the same nonconformity has
63 been the subject of repair three or more times by the
64 manufacturer or its authorized agent but the nonconformity
65 continues to exist.

66 (d) In no event shall the presumption provided in paragraph
67 (c) apply to a manufacturer unless the manufacturer or its
68 authorized agent has received prior direct written notification
69 from or on behalf of the consumer and been offered an
70 opportunity to cure the alleged defect.

71 (e) It is an affirmative defense to any claim under this
72 chapter that:

73 1. An alleged nonconformity does not substantially impair
74 the farm equipment's use and market value; or

75 2. A nonconformity is the result of abuse or neglect, or of
76 modifications or alterations of the farm equipment not
77 authorized by the manufacturer.

78 (f) This chapter may not be construed to limit or impair
79 the rights or remedies which are otherwise available to a
80 consumer under chapter 681.

81 (g) Any consumer who suffers a loss by reason of a
82 violation of this chapter may bring a civil action to enforce
83 such provision.

84 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE**

Division of Elections

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Emily Ezell

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2027 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Eleventh day of September, A.D., 2025.*


Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

If photocopied or chemically altered, the word "VOID" will appear.

"State of Florida" appears in small letters across the face of this 8 1/2 x 11" document.



RON DeSANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2025 APR 21 AM 11:53

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Ms. Emily Ezell

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, filling a vacant seat previously occupied by John Smoak, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2027.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED
2025 MAY -5 PM 1:14
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Highlands

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

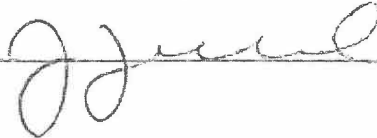
Florida Citrus Commission

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

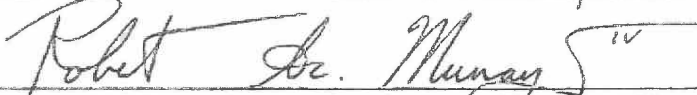
Signature



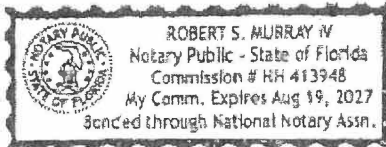
(Affix Seal Below)

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of ☒ physical presence

Or ☐ online notarization this 1 day of May, 2025.



Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public



Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☐ Office ☒

Street or Post Office Box

Emily Ezell

Print Name

City, State, Zip Code

Signature



180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Daniel Keith Sutton

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2026 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.



*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Ninth day of May, A.D., 2025.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Byrd", is positioned above the title "Secretary of State".

Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.



RON DeSANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

2025 APR 21 AM 11:54

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Daniel Sutton
2550 Hickey Creek Road
Alva, Florida 33920

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, subject to confirmation by the Senate.
This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Ron DeSantis in black ink.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

County of Polk

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

Signature

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of ✓ physical presence
Or online notarization this 21 day of May, 2025.

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced

Mailing Address: Home ☐ Office ☒

10070 Daniels Interstate Ct., Ste. 100

Daniel Sutton

Street or Post Office Box

Print Name _____

Fort Myers, FL 33913

City, State, Zip Code

Signature _____

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

John Patrick Schirard

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2027 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Sixteenth day of June, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:54
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. John "Patrick" Schirard
7625 14th Lane
Vero Beach, Florida 32966

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, subject to confirmation by the Senate.
This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2027.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Ron DeSantis in black ink.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

RECEIVED

2025 JUN 11 PM 2:21
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of St. Lucie

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Florida Citrus Commission

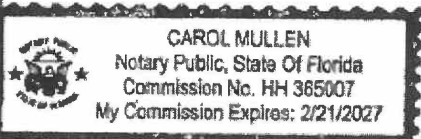
(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

[Signature]
Signature

(Affix Seal Below)



Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of ☒ physical presence

Or ☐ online notarization this 7th day of May, 2025.

[Signature]
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Carol Mullen
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☒ Office ☐

7625 14th Lane
Street or Post Office Box

Vero Beach, Florida 32966
City, State, Zip Code

John Patrick Schivare
Print Name

[Signature]
Signature

180

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Division of Elections

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

William S. Poulton

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2028 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Twenty-Second day of April, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

If photocopied or chemically altered, the word "VOID" will appear.

"State of Florida" appears in small letters across the face of this 8 1/2 x 11" document



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:54
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. William Poulton
6607 Coopers Hawk Court
Lakewood Ranch, Florida 34202

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, subject to confirmation by the Senate.
This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 17 AM 10:23
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Manatee

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Citrus Commissioner

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

[Signature]
Signature

(Affix Seal Below)

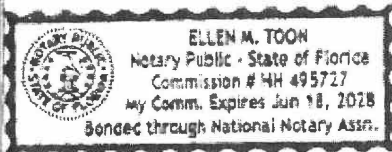
Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of ☒ physical presence
Or ☐ online notarization this 15th day of April, 2025.

Ellen M. Toon
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Ellen M. Toon
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☒ Office ☐

6607 Coopers Hawk Ct

Street or Post Office Box

Lakewood Ranch, FL 34202

City, State, Zip Code

William S. Poutton
Print Name

[Signature]
Signature

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Carlos Martinez

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2026 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Sixteenth day of June, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:53
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Carlos Martinez
13224 Luxbury Loop
Orlando, Florida 32837

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ron DeSantis", written over a horizontal line.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

RECEIVED

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

2025 MAY 28 AM 8:28

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Polk

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Florida Citrus Commission

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Carlos Martinez
Signature

(Affix Seal Below)

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of ☒ physical presence
Or ☐ online notarization this 21 day of May, 2025.

Stacy M. Butterfield
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☒

Office ☐

3820 Gulf Blvd., Apt 501

Carlos Martinez

Street or Post Office Box

Print Name

St. Petersburg Beach, FL 33706

Carlos Martinez
Signature

City, State, Zip Code

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Steve Johnson

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2028 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Eleventh day of September, A.D., 2025.*



A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Byrd".

Secretary of State



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:53

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following reappointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Steve Johnson
652 Airport Road
Wauchula, Florida 33874

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, subject to confirmation by the Senate.
This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Daniel N. Hunt

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2026 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.



*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Ninth day of May, A.D., 2025.*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Byrd", is written over a horizontal line.

Secretary of State



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:53
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Daniel Hunt
2404 Hunt Bros Road
Lake Wales, Florida 33898

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, filling a vacant seat previously occupied by Martin McKenna, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2026.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED

2025 MAY 28 AM 8:28
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Polk

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Florida Citrus Commission

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Daniel N Hunt

Signature

(Affix Seal Below)

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of ☒ physical presence
Or ☐ online notarization this 21 day of May, 2025.

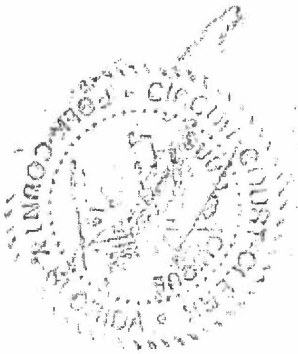
Stacy M. Butterfield

Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☐

Office ☒

2404 Hunt Brothers Road

Daniel Hunt

Street or Post Office Box

Print Name

Lake Wales, FL 33898

Daniel N Hunt

City, State, Zip Code

Signature

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

V. C. Hollingsworth, III

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2028 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Sixteenth day of June, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State



RON DeSANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:53
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes:

Mr. Vernon Hollingsworth III
5389 Northwest Lily Avenue
Arcadia, Florida 34266

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, filling a vacant seat previously occupied by Carlos Martinez, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Ron DeSantis", written over a horizontal line.

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

RECEIVED

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

2025 JUN 13 AM 8:29

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of DeSoto

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Vernon Clyde Hollingsworth III

(Full Name of Office – Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words "so help me God." See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

V C Hollingsworth III
Signature

(Affix Seal Below)

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of X physical

Or online notarization this 5 day of June, 2025 .
presence

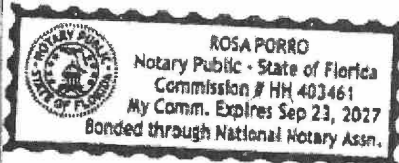
Rosa Porro
Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Rosa Porro

Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced _____



ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☐

Office ☒

5389 NW Lily Ave

V C Hollingsworth

Street or Post Office Box

Print Name

Arcadia, FL 34266

V C Hollingsworth III
Signature

City, State, Zip Code

180

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Sean H. Frielich

is duly appointed a member of the
Florida Citrus Commission

for a term beginning on the Eleventh day of April, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of May, A.D., 2027 and is subject to
be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Fifth day of June, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State



RON DeSANTIS
GOVERNOR

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
2025 APR 21 AM 11:53
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

April 11, 2025

Secretary Cord Byrd
Department of State
R.A. Gray Building, Room 316
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Dear Secretary Byrd:

Please be advised I have made the following appointment under the provisions of Section 601.04, Florida Statutes

Mr. Sean Frielich
20205 United States Highway 27 North
Lake Wales, Florida 33823

as a member of the Florida Citrus Commission, succeeding Christopher Groom, subject to confirmation by the Senate. This appointment is effective April 11, 2025, for a term ending May 31, 2027.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

RD/kf

OATH OF OFFICE

(Art. II, § 5(b), Fla. Const.)

RECEIVED

2025 MAY 13 AM 8:23

DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

STATE OF FLORIDA

County of Polk

I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States and of the State of Florida; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of the State, and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties of

Florida Citrus Commission Commissioner

(Full Name of Office — Abbreviations Not Accepted)

on which I am now about to enter, so help me God.

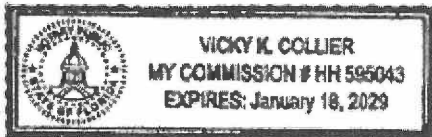
[NOTE: If you affirm, you may omit the words “so help me God.” See § 92.52, Fla. Stat.]

Signature

(Affix Seal Below)

Sworn to and subscribed before me by means of X physical presence

Or online notarization this 1st day of May, 2025.



Signature of Officer Administering Oath or of Notary Public

Vicky K. Collier
Print, Type, or Stamp Commissioned Name of Notary Public

Personally Known ☒ or Produced Identification ☐

Type of Identification Produced

ACCEPTANCE

I accept the office listed in the above Oath of Office.

Mailing Address: Home ☐ Office ☒

20205 US Hwy 27 N

Street or Post Office Box

Lake Wales, FL 33853

City, State, Zip Code

Sean H. Frielich

Print Name _____

Signature

2270

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

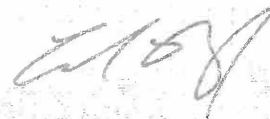
Landon M. Cross

is duly appointed a member of the

**Board of Professional Surveyors and
Mappers**

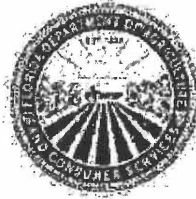
for a term beginning on the First day of November, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of October, A.D., 2029 and is subject
to be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the First day of October, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
(850) 617-7700



THE CAPITOL
400 SOUTH MONROE STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0800

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

September 16, 2025

Mr. Cord Byrd, Secretary
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RECEIVED
2025 SEP 16 PM 3:06
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

Dear Secretary Byrd,

Please be advised I have made the following appointments to the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers. These five members require confirmation by the Florida Senate for appointment.

Mr. Keith Cramer-Replacing Eugene Collings-Bonfill who decided not to request reappointment to a second term

Current Employer:

Honc Industries, Inc., Project Manager

Home Address:

2521 SW 52nd Lane

Cape Coral, Florida 33914

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Ms. Jennifer Cannon- Attorney filling a layperson seat- Replacing Keith Fountain who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

East Coast Habilitation Options, Inc., Attorney

Home Address:

105 Shell Bluff Court

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Secretary Cord Byrd
September 16, 2025
Page Two

Mr. Andrew Getz- Reappointment- Replacing Chris McLaughlin who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

D.C. Johnson and Associates, Inc., Professional Land Surveyor

Home Address:

16402 Nolen Road

Dade City, Florida 33523

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Jim Sullivan- Reappointment- Replacing David Schryver who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

BGE, Inc., Director, Land Surveying

Home Address:

13502 Artisan Circle

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Landon Cross-Reappointment

Current Employer:

Carnahan, Proctor and Cross, Inc., Surveyor

Home Address:

9718 Triton Court

Boca Raton, Florida 33434

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 850-617-7700.

Sincerely,



Wilton Simpson
Commissioner of Agriculture

2270

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Jim Sullivan

is duly appointed a member of the

**Board of Professional Surveyors and
Mappers**

for a term beginning on the Sixteenth day of September, A.D.,
2025, until the Thirty-First day of October, A.D., 2028 and is
subject to be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular
session of the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Twentieth day of October, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
(850) 617-7700



THE CAPITOL
400 SOUTH MONROE STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0800

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

September 16, 2025

Mr. Cord Byrd, Secretary
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RECEIVED
2025 SEP 16 PM 3:06
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

Dear Secretary Byrd,

Please be advised I have made the following appointments to the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers. These five members require confirmation by the Florida Senate for appointment.

Mr. Keith Cramer-Replacing Eugene Collings-Bonfill who decided not to request reappointment to a second term

Current Employer:

Honc Industries, Inc., Project Manager

Home Address:

2521 SW 52nd Lane

Cape Coral, Florida 33914

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Ms. Jennifer Cannon- Attorney filling a layperson seat- Replacing Keith Fountain who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

East Coast Habilitation Options, Inc., Attorney

Home Address:

105 Shell Bluff Court

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Secretary Cord Byrd
September 16, 2025
Page Two

Mr. Andrew Getz- Reappointment- Replacing Chris McLaughlin who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

D.C. Johnson and Associates, Inc., Professional Land Surveyor

Home Address:

16402 Nolen Road

Dade City, Florida 33523

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Jim Sullivan- Reappointment- Replacing David Schryver who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

BGE, Inc., Director, Land Surveying

Home Address:

13502 Artisan Circle

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Landon Cross-Reappointment

Current Employer:

Carnahan, Proctor and Cross, Inc., Surveyor

Home Address:

9718 Triton Court

Boca Raton, Florida 33434

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 850-617-7700.

Sincerely,



Wilton Simpson
Commissioner of Agriculture

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Andrew R. Getz

is duly appointed a member of the

**Board of Professional Surveyors and
Mappers**

for a term beginning on the Sixteenth day of September, A.D.,
2025, until the Thirty-First day of October, A.D., 2028 and is
subject to be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular
session of the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Sixteenth day of September, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
(850) 617-7700



THE CAPITOL
400 SOUTH MONROE STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0800

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

September 16, 2025

Mr. Cord Byrd, Secretary
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

Dear Secretary Byrd,

Please be advised I have made the following appointments to the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers. These five members require confirmation by the Florida Senate for appointment.

Mr. Keith Cramer-Replacing Eugene Collings-Bonfill who decided not to request reappointment to a second term

Current Employer:

Honc Industries, Inc., Project Manager

Home Address:

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Ms. Jennifer Cannon- Attorney filling a layperson seat- Replacing Keith Fountain who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

East Coast Habilitation Options, Inc., Attorney

Home Address:

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Secretary Cord Byrd
September 16, 2025
Page Two

Mr. Andrew Getz- Reappointment- Replacing Chris McLaughlin who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

D.C. Johnson and Associates, Inc., Professional Land Surveyor

Home Address:

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Jim Sullivan- Reappointment- Replacing David Schryver who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

BGE, Inc., Director, Land Surveying

Home Address:

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Landon Cross-Reappointment

Current Employer:

Carnahan, Proctor and Cross, Inc., Surveyor

Home Address:

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 850-617-7700.

Sincerely,



Wilton Simpson
Commissioner of Agriculture

2270

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

David Keith Cramer

is duly appointed a member of the

**Board of Professional Surveyors and
Mappers**

for a term beginning on the First day of November, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of October, A.D., 2029 and is subject
to be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.

*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Tenth day of October, A.D., 2025.*



Secretary of State

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
(850) 617-7700



THE CAPITOL
400 SOUTH MONROE STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0800

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

September 16, 2025

Mr. Cord Byrd, Secretary
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RECEIVED
2025 SEP 16 PM 3:06
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

Dear Secretary Byrd,

Please be advised I have made the following appointments to the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers. These five members require confirmation by the Florida Senate for appointment.

Mr. Keith Cramer-Replacing Eugene Collings-Bonfill who decided not to request reappointment to a second term

Current Employer:

Honc Industries, Inc., Project Manager

Home Address:

2521 SW 52nd Lane

Cape Coral, Florida 33914

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Ms. Jennifer Cannon- Attorney filling a layperson seat- Replacing Keith Fountain who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

East Coast Habilitation Options, Inc., Attorney

Home Address:

105 Shell Bluff Court

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Secretary Cord Byrd
September 16, 2025
Page Two

Mr. Andrew Getz- Reappointment- Replacing Chris McLaughlin who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

D.C. Johnson and Associates, Inc., Professional Land Surveyor

Home Address:

16402 Nolen Road

Dade City, Florida 33523

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Jim Sullivan- Reappointment- Replacing David Schryver who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

BGE, Inc., Director, Land Surveying

Home Address:

13502 Artisan Circle

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Landon Cross-Reappointment

Current Employer:

Carnahan, Proctor and Cross, Inc., Surveyor

Home Address:

9718 Triton Court

Boca Raton, Florida 33434

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 850-617-7700.

Sincerely,



Wilton Simpson
Commissioner of Agriculture

2270

**STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of Elections**

I, Cord Byrd, Secretary of State,
do hereby certify that

Jennifer Hooten Cannon

is duly appointed a member of the

**Board of Professional Surveyors and
Mappers**

for a term beginning on the First day of November, A.D., 2025,
until the Thirty-First day of October, A.D., 2029 and is subject
to be confirmed by the Senate during the next regular session of
the Legislature.



*Given under my hand and the Great Seal of the
State of Florida, at Tallahassee, the Capital, this
the Twentieth day of October, A.D., 2025.*

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Byrd".

Secretary of State

DSDE 99 (3/03)

The original document has a reflective line mark in paper. Hold at an angle to view when checking.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
(850) 617-7700



THE CAPITOL
400 SOUTH MONROE STREET
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA 32399-0800

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES
COMMISSIONER WILTON SIMPSON

September 16, 2025

Mr. Cord Byrd, Secretary
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399

RECEIVED
2025 SEP 16 PM 3:06
DIVISION OF ELECTIONS
TALLAHASSEE, FL

Dear Secretary Byrd,

Please be advised I have made the following appointments to the Florida Board of Professional Surveyors and Mappers. These five members require confirmation by the Florida Senate for appointment.

Mr. Keith Cramer-Replacing Eugene Collings-Bonfill who decided not to request reappointment to a second term

Current Employer:

Honc Industries, Inc., Project Manager

Home Address:

2521 SW 52nd Lane

Cape Coral, Florida 33914

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Ms. Jennifer Cannon- Attorney filling a layperson seat- Replacing Keith Fountain who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

East Coast Habilitation Options, Inc., Attorney

Home Address:

105 Shell Bluff Court

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida 32082

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Secretary Cord Byrd
September 16, 2025
Page Two

Mr. Andrew Getz- Reappointment- Replacing Chris McLaughlin who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

D.C. Johnson and Associates, Inc., Professional Land Surveyor

Home Address:

16402 Nolen Road

Dade City, Florida 33523

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Jim Sullivan- Reappointment- Replacing David Schryver who completed two terms.

Current Employer:

BGE, Inc., Director, Land Surveying

Home Address:

13502 Artisan Circle

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418

Term Date: November 1, 2024-October 31, 2028 (Effective September 16, 2025)

Mr. Landon Cross-Reappointment

Current Employer:

Carnahan, Proctor and Cross, Inc., Surveyor

Home Address:

9718 Triton Court

Boca Raton, Florida 33434

Term Date: November 1, 2025-October 31, 2029

Thank you for your assistance. If you have any questions, please contact my office at 850-617-7700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Simpson', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Wilton Simpson
Commissioner of Agriculture