The Florida Senate 2023 Summary of Legislation Passed Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

HB 7027 — Ratification of Rules of the Department of Environmental Protection

by Water Quality, Supply, and Treatment Subcommittee and Rep. Overdorf and others (CS/SB 7002 by Community Affairs Committee and Environment and Natural Resources Committee)

The bill ratifies Florida Administrative Code Rule 62-6.001, which incorporates more stringent permitting requirements for onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, commonly referred to as septic systems, in areas where the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has adopted an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system remediation plan as part of a basin management action plan.

The bill also ratifies Florida Administrative Code Rules 62-600.405, 62-600.705, and 62-600.720, relating to domestic wastewater facilities, which are amended to:

- Require a pipe assessment, repair, and replacement plan and an annual report on the plan;
- Include statutory requirements for a power outage contingency plan;
- Include statutory requirements for an annual report on utilities' expenditures on pollution mitigation efforts; and
- Require certain domestic wastewater facilities' emergency response plans to address cybersecurity.

If approved by the Governor, or allowed to become law without the Governor's signature, these provisions take effect upon becoming law. *Vote: Senate 38-0; House 111-0*

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