312-948A-98

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to rulemaking authority with 3 respect to environmental permitting (RAB); 4 creating s. 161.0315, F.S.; providing authority 5 to adopt rules relating to coastal 6 construction; amending s. 161.053, F.S.; 7 providing for adoption of rules establishing exemptions for certain activities that have no 8 9 adverse effect on the coastal system; amending s. 403.813, F.S.; clarifying authority to 10 implement certain exemptions without adoption 11 12 of rules; providing an effective date. 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 15 Section 1. Section 161.0315, Florida Statutes, is 16 17 created to read: 18 161.0315 Rulemaking.--The department may adopt rules 19 relating to coastal construction under the Administrative 20 Procedures Act. 21 Section 2. Subsection (12) of section 161.053, Florida 22 Statutes, is amended to read: 161.053 Coastal construction and excavation; 23 regulation on county basis .--24 25 (12)(a) The coastal construction control requirements defined in subsection (1) and the requirements of the erosion 26 27 projections pursuant to subsection (6) do not apply to any 28 modification, maintenance, or repair to any existing structure within the limits of the existing foundation which does not 29 30 require, involve, or include any additions to, or repair or modification of, the existing foundation of that structure.

Specifically excluded from this exemption are seawalls or other rigid coastal or shore protection structures and any additions or enclosures added, constructed, or installed below the first dwelling floor or lowest deck of the existing structure.

- (b) Activities seaward of the coastal construction control line which are determined by the department not to have an adverse impact on the coastal system are exempt from the requirements in subsection (5).
- (c) The department may adopt rules establishing exemptions from the requirements of this section.

Section 3. Paragraph (r) of subsection (2) of section 403.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

403.813 Permits issued at district centers; exceptions.--

- (2) No permit under this chapter, chapter 373, chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or chapter 25214 or chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, shall be required for activities associated with the following types of projects; however, nothing in this subsection relieves an applicant from any requirement to obtain permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or any water management district in its governmental or proprietary capacity or from complying with applicable local pollution control programs authorized under this chapter or other requirements of county and municipal governments:
- (r) The removal of aquatic plants, the removal of tussocks, the associated replanting of indigenous aquatic plants, or the associated removal from lakes of organic material when such planting or removal is performed and

authorized by permit or exemption granted under s. 369.20 or s. 369.25, if:

- 1. Organic material that exists on the surface of natural mineral soil shall be allowed to be removed to a depth of 3 feet or to the natural mineral soils, whichever is less.
- 2. All organic material removal pursuant to this subsection shall be deposited in an upland site in a manner that will prevent the reintroduction of the material into waters in the state except when spoil material is permitted to be used to create wildlife islands in freshwater bodies of the state when a governmental entity is permitted pursuant to this section to create such islands as a part of a restoration or enhancement project.
- 3. All activities are performed in a manner consistent with state water quality standards.

The department \underline{may} is not authorized to adopt implementing rules for this $\underline{paragraph}$ subsection, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

SENATE SUMMARY

Authorizes the Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules relating to coastal construction. Clarifies authority to implement exemptions without adoption of rules.

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