By the Committee on Water & Resource Management and Representatives Saunders and Bronson

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to water resources; amending s. 373.149, F.S.; acknowledging that the South Florida Water Management District is the local sponsor of the Restudy of the Central and Southern Florida Project for Flood Control and Other Purposes; requiring legislative approval of the plan or report that results from the Restudy, before the water management district can take certain actions, expend funds, or otherwise implement the plan; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 373.149, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.149 Existing districts preserved.--

(1) The enactment of this act shall not affect the existence of the Central and Southern Florida Flood Control District created by chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, or the Southwest Florida Water Management District, created by chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or any contract or obligation of such districts entered into prior to the effective date of this act. The two districts shall continue to exercise the taxing powers authorized to them in the territories within their respective boundaries, except that nothing herein shall limit the department in considering and recommending to the 1973 session of the Legislature changes in the boundaries and transfers of funds, appropriations, personnel, property, or equipment between or among the existing districts and

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districts created by this chapter. The two districts shall continue to exercise the powers presently authorized by chapter 378 and this chapter, notwithstanding provisions contained to the contrary in this chapter, until any such powers shall be specifically revoked or modified by the department pursuant to this chapter, except that the provisions of s. 373.139 relating to acquisition of real property shall apply.

(2) The South Florida Water Management District's participation as local sponsor is authorized for the Comprehensive Review Study, or Restudy, of the Central and Southern Florida Project for Flood Control and Other Purposes for which federal participation was authorized and directed by the Federal Water Resources Development Acts of 1992 and 1996 together with related Congressional resolutions. This authorization includes the authority for the South Florida Water Management District to provide any and all assistance requested by the department, the Governor, or the Legislature in their review of the Comprehensive Review Study. Upon completion of the Restudy and prior to any action by the South Florida Water Management District in furtherance of the Restudy, the district is directed to provide the document to the department, Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the President of the Senate. The South Florida Water Management District is not authorized to implement any proposed modification to the design or operations of the Central and Southern Florida Project for Flood Control and Other Purposes, expend any funds, or otherwise implement a comprehensive plan, feasibility report, or other proposed plan of action resulting from the Restudy, including any action seeking further Congressional

authorizations or approvals, unless the plan or report is approved by the Legislature with appropriate authorizations for further district actions. Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.