

By the Committee on Natural Resources and Senator Latvala

312-1790A-99

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to sewage treatment facility
3 discharges; prohibiting new discharges, or
4 increased pollutant loadings from existing
5 sewage treatment facilities into coastal waters
6 within Pasco County or waters tributary
7 thereto; requiring elimination of existing
8 discharges into coastal waters within Pasco
9 County or waters tributary thereto; authorizing
10 the Department of Environmental Protection to
11 grant exceptions under certain circumstances;
12 providing an effective date.

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

16 Section 1. Elimination of sewage treatment facility
17 discharges into coastal waters within Pasco County.--

18 (1) No new discharges, or increased pollutant loadings
19 from existing sewage treatment facilities, into the coastal
20 waters of the state within Pasco County, which include, but
21 are not limited to, Anclote Anchorage, Sandy Bay, Cross Bayou,
22 Millers Bayou, Boggy Bay, Hope Bayou, Lighter Bayou, or
23 Fillman Bayou, or into waters tributary thereto, are permitted
24 except as provided in subsection (3).

25 (2) All existing sewage treatment facility discharges
26 into the coastal waters of the state within Pasco County must
27 be eliminated before July 1, 2004, except as provided in
28 subsection (3).

29 (3) The Department of Environmental Protection may
30 grant an exception to subsection (1) or subsection (2) only in
31 the following circumstances:

1 (a) If the applicant conclusively demonstrates that no
2 other practical alternative exists, the discharge will receive
3 advanced waste treatment as defined in section 403.086(4),
4 Florida Statutes, or a higher level of treatment, and the
5 applicant conclusively demonstrates that the proposed
6 discharge will not result in degradation of the receiving
7 water body; or

8 (b) If the applicant's discharge is a limited wet
9 weather surface water discharge serving as a backup to a reuse
10 system, subject to the requirements of department rules.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2003.

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13 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
15 SB 1424

16 The committee substitute deletes everything after the enacting
17 clause. The bill now prohibits any new discharges, or
18 increased pollutant loadings from existing sewage treatment
19 facilities, into the coastal waters of the state within Pasco
20 County, or waters tributary to the coastal waters of Pasco
21 County. The bill also requires that all existing sewage
22 treatment facility discharges into the coastal waters of the
23 state within Pasco County be eliminated before July 1, 2004.
24 However, the DEP may grant an exception to the above
25 prohibitions in the following circumstances:

- 26 - If the applicant conclusively demonstrates that no other
27 practical alternative exists, the discharge will receive
28 advanced waste treatment as defined in s. 403.086(4),
29 F.S., or a higher level of treatment, and the applicant
30 conclusively demonstrates that the proposed discharge
31 will not result in degradation of the receiving water
body, or
- If the applicant's discharge is a limited wet weather
surface water discharge serving as a backup to a reuse
system, subject to the requirements of department rules.

The act takes effect January 1, 2003.