

By the Committee on Water & Resource Management and Representatives Alexander, Boyd, Maygarden, Peaden, Melvin, J. Miller, Kilmer, Bense, Betancourt, Brummer, Kelly, Waters, Merchant, Cantens, K. Smith and Ogles

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the interim wetlands
3 permitting program for the Northwest Florida
4 Water Management District; amending s.
5 373.4145, F.S.; postponing scheduled July 1,
6 1999, repeal of certain provisions to a
7 specified date; directing the Northwest Florida
8 Water Management District and the Department of
9 Environmental Protection to develop a plan to
10 implement an environmental resource permitting
11 program within the jurisdiction of the district
12 by a specified date; requiring reports to the
13 Legislature on the progress of the planning
14 efforts; providing an effective date.

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

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18 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 373.4145, Florida
19 Statutes, is amended and subsection (7) is added to said
20 section, to read:

21 373.4145 Interim part IV permitting program for the
22 Northwest Florida Water Management District.--

23 (6) Subsections (1), (2), (3), and (4) shall be
24 repealed effective July 1, 2003 ~~1999~~.

25 (7)(a) The department and the Northwest Florida Water
26 Management District are directed to begin developing a plan by
27 which the permitting for activities proposed in surface waters
28 and wetlands shall fully comply with the provisions of part IV
29 of chapter 373, beginning July 1, 2003. The plan also shall
30 address the division of environmental resource permitting
31 responsibilities between the department and the Northwest

1 Florida Water Management District; the methodology of
2 delineating wetlands in the Northwest Florida Water Management
3 District; authority of the Northwest Florida Water Management
4 District to implement federal permitting programs related to
5 activities in surface waters and wetlands; and the chapter 70
6 implications of implementing the provisions of part IV of
7 chapter 373 within the jurisdiction of the Northwest Florida
8 Water Management District.

9 (b) The department and Northwest Florida Water
10 Management District shall jointly prepare an interim report on
11 their progress in developing the aforementioned plan, to be
12 presented March 1, 2001 to the Governor, the President of the
13 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the
14 chairs of the relevant substantive and fiscal committees. The
15 department and district shall present a final report on March
16 1, 2003.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
18 law.

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21 HOUSE SUMMARY

22 Postpones scheduled July 1, 1999, repeal of certain
23 provisions of the interim wetlands permitting program for
24 the Northwest Florida Water Management District under pt.
25 IV of ch. 373, until July 1, 2003. Directs the district
26 and the Department of Environmental Protection to develop
a plan for an environmental resource permitting program
within the jurisdiction of the district by July 1, 2003.
Requires reports to the Governor and Legislature.