

By the Committee on Environmental Protection and
Representatives Fiorentino, Fasano and Russell

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 or
27 into waters tributary thereto, as described in subsection (1),
28 must be eliminated before July 1, 2004, except as provided in
29 subsection (3).

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

4 (a) The applicant conclusively demonstrates that no
5 other practical alternative exists and the discharge will
6 receive advanced waste treatment as defined in s. 403.086(4),
7 Florida Statutes, or a higher level of treatment, and the
8 applicant conclusively demonstrates that the proposed
9 discharge will not result in a violation of water quality
10 standards; or

11 (b) The applicant's discharge is a limited wet-weather
12 surface water discharge serving as a backup to a reuse system
13 pursuant to s. 403.086(7)(a), Florida Statutes, and will not
14 cause a violation of state water quality standards and is
15 subject to the requirements of department rules.

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