



1 those parts of Florida Bay lying within Everglades National  
2 Park.

3 (c) "Modified Water Deliveries Project" means the  
4 project of the same name identified in the General Design  
5 Memorandum and Environmental Impact Statement by the United  
6 States Army Corps of Engineers, dated 1992, and as provided in  
7 s. 104, Pub. L. No. 101-229, including the protections  
8 required by s. 104(c) therein.

9 (d) "Restudy" means the Comprehensive Review Study by  
10 the United States Army Corps of Engineers, dated April 1999.

11 (3) FINDINGS AND INTENT.--

12 (a) The Legislature finds that the current design and  
13 operation of the Central and Southern Florida Project,  
14 hereinafter known as the "Project," and other related  
15 facilities operated by the South Florida Water Management  
16 District do not provide all parts of the Everglades with equal  
17 treatment with respect to water management and ecosystem  
18 protection. It is also apparent that the flood protection  
19 benefits to be provided by the Project have not been attained  
20 in many populated areas.

21 (b) The Legislature finds that immediate and long-term  
22 protection of the Everglades and Florida Bay can best be  
23 served by expediting the construction of the Modified Water  
24 Deliveries Project approved by Congress in 1989 and the C-111  
25 Canal Project approved by the United States Army Corps of  
26 Engineers in 1995.

27 (c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the  
28 Everglades Protection Area be managed to achieve equal  
29 protection and restoration benefits throughout and that a  
30 thorough review be conducted to identify changes necessary to  
31 reduce flood damage to agricultural and urban property.

1           (4) PROTECTION FOR FLORIDA BAY AND THE EVERGLADES.--  
2           (a) The South Florida Water Management District is  
3 directed to support immediate implementation of the Modified  
4 Water Deliveries Project, as defined and provided in s. 104,  
5 Pub. L. No. 101-229, and in the General Design Memorandum and  
6 Environmental Impact submitted to Congress, dated 1992, with  
7 only such changes as are within and consistent with the  
8 general scope of the General Design Memorandum and the  
9 Environmental Impact Statement and in all cases providing the  
10 protections required in s. 104(c), Pub. L. No. 101-229. No  
11 land acquisition funds made available to the district from any  
12 state or federal source shall be used to purchase property  
13 east of the proposed seepage levee recommended in the above  
14 General Design Memorandum and Environmental Impact Statement.  
15           (b) The South Florida Water Management District is  
16 further directed to expedite the construction of the C-111  
17 Canal Project. Once constructed, the S-332A through S-332D  
18 structures shall be operated at the levels specified in the  
19 recommended plan of the Restudy in order to provide the most  
20 benefits to Florida Bay while providing acceptable levels of  
21 flood protection for the private property east of the  
22 Everglades.  
23           (5) FLOOD PROTECTION.--The South Florida Water  
24 Management District shall conduct a detailed review and  
25 provide a report to the Legislature on the flooding associated  
26 with Hurricane Irene, with the purpose of determining whether  
27 water management facilities were maintained properly prior to  
28 the storm and whether all appropriate actions were taken prior  
29 to, during, and after the flood. The report shall also  
30 document areas with inadequate flood protection and make  
31 recommendations on the action necessary to provide an

1 appropriate level of protection to these areas. The review  
2 shall include a full opportunity for public input and shall  
3 include at least four public hearings in Miami-Dade and  
4 Broward Counties. At least one of the public hearings in each  
5 county must be conducted by the Governing Board of the South  
6 Florida Water Management District. The final report shall be  
7 adopted by the governing board and submitted to the Speaker of  
8 the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate  
9 no later than November 1, 2000.

10 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
11 law.

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14 HOUSE SUMMARY

15 Creates the "Everglades/Florida Bay Equal Protection and  
16 Flood Control Assurances Act of 2000." Provides  
17 definitions. Provides Legislative findings and intent.  
18 Directs the South Florida Water Management District to  
19 implement described protections for Florida Bay and the  
20 Everglades. Provides a restriction on the district's use  
21 of state or federal land acquisition funds to purchase  
22 property. Directs the district to review and make  
23 recommendations regarding flood protection in certain  
24 areas in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. Provides for  
25 public hearings in both counties and submission of a  
26 report to the Legislature by November 1, 2000.  
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