

By Senator Geller

29-185-01

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to citrus canker eradication;
3 amending s. 581.184, F.S.; revising
4 requirements with respect to compensation for
5 citrus trees removed as part of an eradication
6 program; providing appropriations; directing
7 the department to compensate certain owners of
8 citrus trees removed as part of eradication
9 programs; providing retroactive applicability;
10 providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 581.184, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended to read:

16 581.184 Adoption of rules; citrus canker eradication;
17 voluntary destruction agreements; buffer zone.--

18 (3) The department, pursuant to s. 581.031(15) and
19 (17), may create a citrus canker host-free buffer area,
20 delineated by department rule, to retard the spread of citrus
21 canker from known infected areas. In addition, the department
22 shall develop a compensation plan for the trees removed from
23 the buffer area. Compensation for the trees removed from
24 nonresidential property within the buffer area is subject to
25 annual legislative appropriation.

26 Section 2. (1) The sum of \$45 million is appropriated
27 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Agriculture
28 and Consumer Services, and the sum of \$5 million is
29 appropriated from the Citrus Trust Fund to the Department of
30 Agriculture and Consumer Services. These moneys shall be used
31 by the department to compensate, in the amount of \$100 a tree,

1 the owners of citrus trees removed as part of a citrus canker
2 eradication program. Compensation may be paid under this
3 section only for the removal of trees located on residential
4 property.

5 (2) The specification of a per-tree amount of
6 compensation in this section does not limit the amount of
7 compensation that may be paid by another entity or pursuant to
8 court order for the removal of citrus trees as part of a
9 citrus canker eradication program.

10 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
11 law and shall operate retroactively to provide compensation
12 for citrus trees removed on or after January 1, 2000.

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15 SENATE SUMMARY

16 Appropriates \$50 million to the Department of Agriculture
17 and Consumer Services to compensate owners of citrus
18 trees removed from residential property on or after
19 January 1, 2000, as part of a citrus canker eradication
20 program.

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