

By the Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs and Representatives Bullard, Lerner, Gibson, Heyman, Brutus, Cantens, Holloway, Betancourt, Meadows, Garcia, Barreiro, Wilson, Gelber, Gottlieb and Diaz de la Portilla

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 \$50 million is appropriated
 27 from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Agriculture
 28 and Consumer Services. These moneys shall be used by the
 29 department to compensate, in the amount of \$55 per tree, the
 30 owners of citrus trees removed as part of a citrus canker
 31 eradication program. Compensation may be paid under this

1 section only for the removal of trees located on residential
2 property.

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

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

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