

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Committee on Procedures recommends the following:

2
3 **Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 House Resolution

6 A resolution recognizing March 31, 2004, as "Local Water
7 Sources First Day," supporting the continued inclusion of
8 a "local sources first" policy in chapter 373, Florida
9 Statutes, and opposing any amendments to the state's water
10 resource policy that are inconsistent with the public
11 interest.

12
13 WHEREAS, Florida's water resources are a natural resource
14 and not a commodity to be sold or transferred to the highest
15 bidder, and

16 WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives supports the
17 local water sources first policy currently in state law, and

18 WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives recognizes
19 that the continued retention of the local water sources first
20 policy is integral to protecting the state's water resources,
21 advancing long-term sustainable water resource development and
22 supply systems, and preserving the rights and opportunities of
23 local residents to secure and sustain their future prosperity

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24 | and quality of life through the use and enjoyment of local water
25 | resources, and

26 | WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives supports the
27 | fundamental principles of the Florida Water Resources Act of
28 | 1972 which require that a proposed use of water be reasonable
29 | and beneficial, not interfere with an existing legal use of
30 | water, and be consistent with the public interest, and

31 | WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives opposes
32 | legislation that shifts water supply allocation from a publicly
33 | regulated process to a market-driven process, and

34 | WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives opposes
35 | legislation that undermines a fundamental principle of water
36 | resources law which establishes a right of use rather than a
37 | right of ownership, and

38 | WHEREAS, the Florida House of Representatives believes that
39 | any discussion of regional water transfer, before using local
40 | water sources or alternatives, is premature until minimum flows
41 | and levels have been established for all of the state's water
42 | resources, NOW, THEREFORE,

43 |
44 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
45 | Florida:

46 |
47 | That the Florida House of Representatives recognizes March
48 | 31, 2004, as "Local Water Sources First Day," opposes any
49 | modifications to the fundamental provisions of chapter 373,
50 | Florida Statutes, as they relate to the current "local sources

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51 | first" policy, and encourages its legislative colleagues and the
52 | Governor to join in this opposition.