CHAMBER ACTION

1 The State Resources Council recommends the following: 2 3 Council/Committee Substitute 4 Remove the entire bill and insert: 5 A bill to be entitled 6 An act relating to the development of water supplies; 7 amending s. 373.019, F.S.; creating definitions for 8 "alternative water supplies," "capital costs," and 9 "multijurisdictional water supply entity"; amending s. 10 373.0361, F.S.; providing for the development of regional 11 water supply plans; providing requirements for the content 12 of each plan; providing for an approval process for the plans; providing for annual updates; providing for local 13 14 government use of the plans; providing notification requirements for water management districts concerning 15 16 findings within the plan; changing the deadline for 17 certain plan updates; amending s. 373.196, F.S.; encouraging cooperation in the development of water 18 19 supplies; providing for alternative water supply 20 development; encouraging municipalities, counties, and 21 special districts to create regional water supply 22 authorities; establishing the primary roles of the water 23 management district in alternative water supply Page 1 of 38

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24 development; establishing the primary roles of local 25 governments, regional water supply authorities, special 26 districts, and publicly and privately owned water 27 utilities in alternative water supply development; amending s. 373.1961, F.S.; providing general powers and 28 duties of the water management districts in water 29 production; requiring that the water management districts 30 31 include the amount needed to implement the water supply 32 development projects in each annual budget; establishing 33 general funding criteria for funding assistance to water 34 management districts; establishing economic incentives for 35 alternative water supply development; requiring that funding assistance for alternative water supply 36 37 development be limited to a percentage of the local 38 capital costs of an approved project; requiring that the 39 governing board or alternative water supplies advisory 40 committee recommend alternative water supply projects for funding; establishing criteria; providing for cost 41 42 recovery from the Public Service Commission; establishing criteria for funding assistance for water reuse systems; 43 44 amending s. 373.1962, F.S.; clarifying that counties, 45 municipalities, and special districts may execute 46 interlocal agreements to create regional water supply 47 authorities; amending s. 373.1963, F.S.; prohibiting certain transfers of water without prior consent; amending 48 s. 373.223, F.S.; establishing criteria for certain water 49 50 supply entities to be presumed to have a use consistent 51 with the public interest for requirements for consumptive Page 2 of 38

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	CS
52	use permitting; amending s. 373.236, F.S.; providing
53	permits of at least 20 years for development of
54	alternative water supplies under certain conditions;
55	amending ss. 373.036, 373.421, 403.813, and 556.102, F.S.;
56	conforming cross references; providing an effective date.
57	
58	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
59	
60	Section 1. Subsections (1) through (9) and (10) through
61	(23) of section 373.019, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as
62	subsections (2) through (11) and (13) through (26),
63	respectively, and new subsections (1), (2), and (12) are added
64	to said section to read:
65	373.019 DefinitionsWhen appearing in this chapter or in
66	any rule, regulation, or order adopted pursuant thereto, the
67	following words shall, unless the context clearly indicates
68	otherwise, mean:
69	(1) "Alternative water supplies" means saltwater; brackish
70	surface and groundwater; surface water captured predominantly
71	during wet-weather flows; sources made available through the
72	addition of new storage capacity for surface or groundwater;
73	water that has been reclaimed after one or more public supply,
74	municipal, industrial, commercial, or agricultural uses; the
75	downstream augmentation of waterbodies with reclaimed water;
76	stormwater; and any other water supply source that is designated
77	as nontraditional for a water supply planning region in the
78	applicable regional water supply plan.
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CS 79 (2) "Capital costs" means planning, design, engineering, 80 and project construction costs. (12) "Multijurisdictional water supply entity" means two 81 82 or more water utilities or local governments, organized into a 83 larger entity or that have entered into an interlocal agreement 84 or contract, for the purpose of more efficiently pursuing water supply development or alternative water supply development 85 projects listed pursuant to a regional water supply plan. 86 Section 2. Section 373.0361, Florida Statutes, is amended 87 88 to read: 89 (Substantial rewording of section. See 90 s. 373.0361, Florida Statutes, for present text.) 91 373.0361 Regional water supply planning.--92 The governing board of each water management district (1) 93 shall conduct water supply planning for any water supply 94 planning region within the district identified in the 95 appropriate district water supply plan under s. 373.036, where it determines that existing sources of water are not adequate to 96 97 supply water for all existing and future reasonable-beneficial 98 uses and to sustain the water resources and related natural systems for the planning period. The planning must be conducted 99 100 in an open public process in coordination and cooperation with local governments, regional water supply authorities, 101 102 government-owned and privately owned water utilities, self-103 suppliers, and other affected and interested parties. The 104 districts will actively engage in public education and outreach 105 to all affected local entities and their officials, as well as 106 to members of the public, in the planning process and in seeking Page 4 of 38

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107	input. During preparation, but prior to completion of the
108	regional water supply plan, the district must conduct at least
109	one public workshop to discuss the technical data and modeling
110	tools anticipated to be used to support the regional water
111	supply plan. The district shall also hold several public
112	meetings to communicate the status, overall conceptual intent,
113	and impacts of the plan on existing and future reasonable-
114	beneficial uses and natural systems. A determination by the
115	governing board that initiation of a regional water supply plan
116	for a specific planning region is not needed pursuant to this
117	section shall be subject to s. 120.569. The governing board
118	shall reevaluate such a determination at least once every 5
119	years and shall initiate a regional water supply plan, if
120	needed, pursuant to this subsection.
121	(2) Each regional water supply plan shall be based on at
122	least a 20-year planning period and shall include, but is not
123	limited to:
124	(a) A water supply development component for each water
125	supply planning region identified by the district that includes:
126	1. A quantification of the water supply needs for all
127	existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses within the
128	planning horizon. The level-of-certainty planning goal
129	associated with identifying the water supply needs of existing
130	and future reasonable-beneficial uses shall be based upon
131	meeting those needs for a 1-in-10-year drought event. Population
132	projections used for determining public water supply needs must
133	be based upon the best available data. In determining the best
134	available data, the district shall consider the University of Page5of38

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CS 135 Florida's Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR) medium 136 population projections and any population projection data and analysis submitted by a local government pursuant to the public 137 138 workshop described in subsection (1) if the data and analysis 139 support the local government's comprehensive plan. Any 140 adjustment of or deviation from the BEBR projections must be fully described, and the original BEBR data must be presented 141 142 along with the adjusted data. 2. A list of water supply development project options, 143 144 including traditional and alternative water supply project 145 options, from which local government, government-owned and 146 privately owned utilities, self-suppliers, and others may choose 147 for water supply development. In addition to projects listed by 148 the district, such users may propose specific projects for 149 inclusion in the list of alternative water supply projects. In 150 the event such users propose a project to be listed as an 151 alternative water supply project, the district shall determine 152 whether it meets the goals of the plan and will be included in 153 the list. The total capacity of the projects included in the 154 plan shall exceed the needs identified in subparagraph 1. and 155 shall take into account water conservation and other demand 156 management measures, as well as water resources constraints, 157 including adopted minimum flows and levels and water 158 reservations. Where the district determines it is appropriate, 159 the plan should specifically identify the need for 160 multijurisdictional approaches to project options that, based on 161 planning level analysis, are appropriate to supply the intended

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CS 162 uses and that, based on such analysis, appear to be permittable 163 and financially and technically feasible. 164 3. For each project option identified in subparagraph 2., 165 the following shall be provided: 166 a. An estimate of the amount of water to become available 167 through the project. 168 b. The timeframe in which the project option should be 169 implemented and the estimated planning level costs for capital 170 investment and operating and maintaining the project. 171 An analysis of funding needs and sources of possible с. 172 funding options. 173 d. Identification of the entity that should implement each 174 project option and the current status of project implementation. 175 (b) A water resource development component that includes: 176 1. A listing of those water resource development projects 177 that support water supply development. 178 2. For each water resource development project listed: 179 a. An estimate of the amount of water to become available 180 through the project. 181 b. The timeframe in which the project option should be 182 implemented and the estimated planning level costs for capital 183 investment and operating and maintaining the project. 184 c. An analysis of funding needs and sources of possible 185 funding options. 186 Identification of the entity that should implement each d. project option and the current status of project implementation. 187 188 (c) The recovery and prevention strategy described in s. 189 373.0421(2).

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190	(d) A funding strategy for water resource development
191	projects, which shall be reasonable and sufficient to pay the
192	cost of constructing or implementing all of the listed projects.
193	(e) Consideration of how the project options addressed in
194	paragraph (a) serve the public interest or save costs overall by
195	preventing the loss of natural resources or avoiding greater
196	future expenditures for water resource development or water
197	supply development. However, unless adopted by rule, these
198	considerations do not constitute final agency action.
199	(f) The technical data and information applicable to each
200	planning region which are necessary to support the regional
201	water supply plan.
202	(g) The minimum flows and levels established for water
203	resources within each planning region.
204	(h) Reservations of water adopted by rule pursuant to s.
205	373.223(4) within each planning region.
206	(i) Identification of surface waters or aquifers for which
207	minimum flows and levels are scheduled to be adopted.
208	(j) An analysis, developed in cooperation with the
209	department, of areas or instances in which the variance
210	provisions of s. 378.212(1)(g) or s. 378.404(9) may be used to
211	create water supply development or water resource development
212	projects.
213	(3) The water supply development component of a regional
214	water supply plan which deals with or affects public utilities
215	and public water supply for those areas served by a regional
216	water supply authority and its member governments within the
217	boundary of the Southwest Florida Water Management District
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	HB 1881 2005 CS
218	shall be developed jointly by the authority and the district. In
219	areas not served by regional water supply authorities or other
220	multijurisdictional water supply entities and where
221	opportunities exist to meet water supply needs more efficiently
222	through multijurisdictional projects identified under s.
223	373.0361(2)(a)2., water management districts are directed to
224	assist in developing multijurisdictional approaches to water
225	supply project development jointly with affected water
226	utilities, special districts, and local governments.
227	(4) Governing board approval of a regional water supply
228	plan shall not be subject to the rulemaking requirements of
229	chapter 120. However, any portion of an approved regional water
230	supply plan which affects the substantial interests of a party
231	shall be subject to s. 120.569.
232	(5) Annually and in conjunction with the reporting
233	requirements of s. 373.536(6)(a)4., the department shall submit
234	to the Governor and the Legislature a report on the status of
235	regional water supply planning in each district. The report
236	shall include:
237	(a) A compilation of the estimated costs of and potential
238	sources of funding for water resource development and water
239	supply development projects as identified in the water
240	management district regional water supply plans.
241	(b) The percentage and amount, by district, of district ad
242	valorem tax revenues or other district funds made available to
243	develop alternative water supplies.
244	(c) A description of each district's progress toward
245	achieving its water resource development objectives, including Page9of38

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246 the district's implementation of its 5-year water resource 247 development work program.

248 (d) An assessment of the specific progress being made to
 249 implement each alternative water supply project option chosen by
 250 the entities identified for implementation in the plan.

251 Nothing contained in the water supply development (6) 252 component of a regional water supply plan shall be construed to 253 require local governments, government-owned or privately owned 254 water utilities, special districts, self-suppliers, regional 255 water supply authorities, or other water suppliers to select a 256 water supply development project identified in the component 257 merely because it is identified in the plan. Except as provided 258 in s. 373.223(3) and (5), the plan may not be used in the review 259 of permits under part II unless the plan, or an applicable 260 portion thereof, has been adopted by rule. However, this subsection does not prohibit a water management district from 261 262 employing the data or other information used to establish the 263 plan in reviewing permits under part II and does not limit the 264 authority of the department or governing board under part II.

265 (7)(a) Where the water supply component of a water supply 266 planning region shows the need for one or more alternative water 267 supply projects, the district shall notify the local governments 268 and make every reasonable effort to educate and involve local 269 public officials in working toward solutions in conjunction with 270 the districts and, where appropriate, other local and regional 271 water supply entities. 272 Within 1 year after governing board approval of a (b)

273 regional water supply plan, each entity identified in sub-Page 10 of 38

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274	subparagraph (2)(a)3.d. shall provide written notification to
275	the water management district of the following: the water supply
276	project options it has developed or intends to develop, if any;
277	an estimate of the quantity of water to be produced by each
278	project; and the status of project implementation, including
279	development of the financial plan, facilities master planning,
280	permitting, and efforts to coordinate multijurisdictional
281	projects, if applicable. The information provided in the
282	notification shall be updated on an annual basis, and a progress
283	report shall be provided by November 15 of each year to the
284	water management district. If an entity proposed a water supply
285	project that is not in the plan, the entity shall request that
286	the water management district consider the project for inclusion
287	in the regional water supply plan.
288	(8) For any regional water supply plan that is scheduled
289	to be updated before December 31, 2005, the timeframe for such
290	update shall be extended for 1 year.
291	Section 3. Section 373.196, Florida Statutes, is amended
292	to read:
293	(Substantial rewording of section. See
294	s. 373.196, Florida Statutes, for present text.)
295	373.196 Alternative water supply development
296	(1) The purpose of this section is to encourage
297	cooperation in the development of water supplies and to provide
298	for alternative water supply development.
299	(a) Demands on natural supplies of fresh water to meet the
300	needs of a rapidly growing population and the needs of the
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301 environment, agriculture, industry, and mining will continue to 302 increase. (b) There is a need for the development of alternative 303 304 water supplies for Florida to sustain its economic growth, 305 economic viability, and natural resources. 306 (c) Cooperative efforts between municipalities, counties, 307 special districts, water management districts, and the Department of Environmental Protection are mandatory in order to 308 meet the water needs of rapidly urbanizing areas in a manner 309 310 which will supply adequate and dependable supplies of water 311 where needed without resulting in adverse effects upon the areas from whence such water is withdrawn. Such efforts should utilize 312 313 all practical means of obtaining water, including, but not 314 limited to, withdrawals of surface water and groundwater, reuse, 315 and desalination and will necessitate not only cooperation but also well-coordinated activities. Municipalities, counties, and 316 317 special districts are encouraged to create multijurisdictional 318 water supply entities and regional water supply authorities as authorized in s. 373.1962. 319 320 (d) Alternative water supply development must receive priority funding attention to increase the available supplies of 321 322 water to meet all existing and future reasonable-beneficial uses 323 and to benefit the natural systems. 324 (e) Cooperation between counties, municipalities, regional 325 water supply authorities, multijurisdictional water supply 326 entities, special districts, and publicly and privately owned

- 327 <u>water utilities in the development of countywide and</u>
- 328 <u>multicountywide alternative water supply projects will allow for</u> Page 12 of 38

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329 necessary economies of scale and efficiencies to be achieved in 330 order to accelerate the development of new, dependable, and 331 sustainable alternative water supplies. 332 (f) It is in the public interest that county, municipal, 333 industrial, agricultural, and other public and private water 334 users, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the water 335 management districts cooperate and work together in the 336 development of alternative water supplies to avoid the adverse effects of competition for limited supplies of water. Public 337 338 moneys or services provided to private entities for alternative 339 water supply development may constitute public purposes that 340 also are in the public interest. (2)(a) Sufficient water must be available for all existing 342 and future reasonable-beneficial uses and the natural systems, 343 and the adverse effects of competition for water supplies must 344 be avoided. 345 (b) Water supply development and alternative water supply 346 development must be conducted in coordination with water 347 management district regional water supply planning. (3) The primary roles of the water management districts in 349 water supply development as it relates to supporting alternative 350 water supply development are: (a) The formulation and implementation of regional water 352 resource management strategies that support alternative water 353 supply development. 354 (b) The collection and evaluation of surface water and 355

groundwater data to be used for a planning-level assessment of

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CS 356 the feasibility of alternative water supply development 357 projects. (c) The construction, operation, and maintenance of major 358 359 public works facilities for flood control, surface and 360 underground water storage, and groundwater recharge augmentation 361 to support alternative water supply development. 362 Planning for alternative water supply development as (d) 363 provided in regional water supply plans in coordination with 364 local governments, regional water supply authorities, 365 multijurisdictional water supply entities, special districts, 366 publicly and privately owned water utilities, and self-367 suppliers. 368 (e) The formulation and implementation of structural and 369 nonstructural programs to protect and manage water resources in 370 support of alternative water supply projects. 371 (f) The provision of technical and financial assistance to 372 local governments and publicly and privately owned water 373 utilities for alternative water supply projects. 374 (4) The primary roles of local government, regional water 375 supply authorities, multijurisdictional water supply entities, 376 special districts, and publicly and privately owned water 377 utilities in alternative water supply development shall be: (a) The planning, design, construction, operation, and 378 379 maintenance of alternative water supply development projects, 380 with funding assistance from the state and the water management 381 districts. 382 (b) The formulation and implementation of alternative 383 water supply development strategies and programs. Page 14 of 38

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384 (c) The planning, design, construction, operation, and maintenance of facilities to collect, divert, produce, treat, 385 transmit, and distribute water for sale, resale, or end use. 386 387 The coordination of alternative water supply (d) 388 development activities with the appropriate water management 389 district having jurisdiction over the activity. 390 (5) Nothing herein shall be construed to preclude the 391 various special districts, municipalities, and counties from 392 continuing to operate existing water production and transmission 393 facilities or to enter into cooperative agreements with other 394 special districts, municipalities, and counties for the purpose 395 of meeting their respective needs for dependable and adequate 396 supplies of water, provided the obtaining of water through such 397 operations shall not be done in a manner which results in 398 adverse effects upon the areas from whence such water is 399 withdrawn. 400 Section 4. Section 373.1961, Florida Statutes, is amended 401 to read: 402 373.1961 Water production; general powers and duties; 403 identification of needs; funding criteria; economic incentives; 404 reuse funding. --405 (1)GENERAL POWERS AND DUTIES .-- In the performance of, and 406 in conjunction with, its other powers and duties, the governing 407 board of a water management district existing pursuant to this 408 chapter: 409 (a) Shall engage in planning to assist counties, 410 municipalities, special districts, publicly and privately owned 411 water private utilities, multijurisdictional water supply Page 15 of 38

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412 <u>entities</u>, or regional water supply authorities in meeting water 413 supply needs in such manner as will give priority to encouraging 414 conservation and reducing adverse environmental effects of 415 improper or excessive withdrawals of water from concentrated 416 areas. As used in this section <u>and s. 373.196</u>, regional water 417 supply authorities are regional water authorities created under 418 s. 373.1962 or other laws of this state.

(b) Shall assist counties, municipalities, <u>special</u>
districts, <u>publicly</u> and <u>privately</u> owned water <u>private</u> utilities,
<u>multijurisdictional</u> water <u>supply</u> entities, or <u>regional</u> water
supply authorities in meeting water supply needs in such manner
as will give priority to encouraging conservation and reducing
adverse environmental effects of improper or excessive
withdrawals of water from concentrated areas.

426 (c) May establish, design, construct, operate, and 427 maintain water production and transmission facilities for the 428 purpose of supplying water to counties, municipalities, special 429 districts, publicly and privately owned water private utilities, 430 or multijurisdictional water supply entities, or regional water 431 supply authorities. The permit required by part II of this 432 chapter for a water management district engaged in water 433 production and transmission shall be granted, denied, or granted with conditions by the department. 434

(d) Shall not engage in local <u>water supply</u> distribution.
(e) Shall not deprive, directly or indirectly, any county
wherein water is withdrawn of the prior right to the reasonable
and beneficial use of water which is required to supply

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adequately the reasonable and beneficial needs of the county orany of the inhabitants or property owners therein.

441 May provide water and financial assistance to regional (f) 442 water supply authorities, but may not provide water to counties 443 and municipalities which are located within the area of such 444 authority without the specific approval of the authority or, in the event of the authority's disapproval, the approval of the 445 446 Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Land and Water Adjudicatory 447 Commission. The district may supply water at rates and upon 448 terms mutually agreed to by the parties or, if they do not 449 agree, as set by the governing board and specifically approved 450 by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Land and Water 451 Adjudicatory Commission.

452 May acquire title to such interest as is necessary in (q) 453 real property, by purchase, gift, devise, lease, eminent domain, or otherwise, for water production and transmission consistent 454 with this section and s. 373.196. However, the district shall 455 456 not use any of the eminent domain powers herein granted to 457 acquire water and water rights already devoted to reasonable and 458 beneficial use or any water production or transmission 459 facilities owned by any county, municipality, special districts, 460 or regional water supply authority. The district may exercise eminent domain powers outside of its district boundaries for the 461 462 acquisition of pumpage facilities, storage areas, transmission facilities, and the normal appurtenances thereto, provided that 463 at least 45 days prior to the exercise of eminent domain, the 464 465 district notifies the district where the property is located 466 after public notice and the district where the property is Page 17 of 38

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467 located does not object within 45 days after notification of468 such exercise of eminent domain authority.

469 In addition to the power to issue revenue bonds (h) 470 pursuant to s. 373.584, may issue revenue bonds for the purposes 471 of paying the costs and expenses incurred in carrying out the 472 purposes of this chapter or refunding obligations of the district issued pursuant to this section. Such revenue bonds 473 shall be secured by, and be payable from, revenues derived from 474 475 the operation, lease, or use of its water production and 476 transmission facilities and other water-related facilities and 477 from the sale of water or services relating thereto. Such 478 revenue bonds may not be secured by, or be payable from, moneys 479 derived by the district from the Water Management Lands Trust 480 Fund or from ad valorem taxes received by the district. All provisions of s. 373.584 relating to the issuance of revenue 481 482 bonds which are not inconsistent with this section shall apply 483 to the issuance of revenue bonds pursuant to this section. The district may also issue bond anticipation notes in accordance 484 485 with the provisions of s. 373.584.

May join with one or more other water management 486 (i) 487 districts, counties, municipalities, special districts, publicly 488 and privately owned water private utilities, multijurisdictional 489 water supply entities, or regional water supply authorities for 490 the purpose of carrying out any of its powers, and may contract 491 with such other entities to finance acquisitions, construction, 492 operation, and maintenance. The contract may provide for 493 contributions to be made by each party thereto, for the division 494 and apportionment of the expenses of acquisitions, construction, Page 18 of 38

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495 operation, and maintenance, and for the division and apportionment of the benefits, services, and products therefrom. 496 497 The contracts may contain other covenants and agreements 498 necessary and appropriate to accomplish their purposes. 499 (2) IDENTIFICATION OF WATER SUPPLY NEEDS IN DISTRICT 500 BUDGET. -- The water management districts shall implement its 501 responsibilities as expeditiously as possible in areas subject 502 to regional water supply plans. Each district's governing board 503 shall include in its annual budget the amount needed for the 504 fiscal year to assist in implementing alternative water supply 505 development projects. 506 FUNDING. -- The Legislature finds that, due to a (3)<del>(2)</del> 507 combination of factors, vastly increased demands have been 508 placed on natural supplies of fresh water, and that, absent 509 increased development of alternative water supplies, such 510 demands may increase in the future. The Legislature also finds 511 that potential exists in the state for the production of 512 significant quantities of alternative water supplies, including reclaimed water, and that water production includes the 513 514 development of alternative water supplies, including reclaimed 515 water, for appropriate uses. It is the intent of the Legislature 516 that utilities develop reclaimed water systems, where reclaimed 517 water is the most appropriate alternative water supply option, 518 to deliver reclaimed water to as many users as possible through 519 the most cost-effective means, and to construct reclaimed water 520 system infrastructure to their owned or operated properties and 521 facilities where they have reclamation capability. It is also 522

22 the intent of the Legislature that the water management Page 19 of 38

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523 districts which levy ad valorem taxes for water management 524 purposes shall should share a percentage of those tax revenues with water providers and users, including local governments, 525 526 water, wastewater, and reuse utilities, municipal, special 527 district, industrial, and agricultural water users, and 528 multijurisdictional water supply entities and other public and private water users, to be used to supplement other funding 529 530 sources in the development of alternative water supplies. The 531 Legislature finds that public moneys or services provided to 532 private entities for such uses constitute public purposes which 533 are in the public interest. In order to further the development and use of alternative water supply systems, including reclaimed 534 535 water systems, the Legislature provides the following: 536 The governing boards of the water management districts (a)

537 where water resource caution areas have been designated shall 538 include in their annual budgets an amount for the development of 539 alternative water supply systems, including reclaimed water 540 systems, pursuant to the requirements of this subsection. 541 Beginning in 1996, such amounts shall be made available to water 542 providers and users no later than December 31 of each year, 543 through grants, matching grants, revolving loans, or the use of 544 district lands or facilities pursuant to the requirements of 545 this subsection and quidelines established by the districts. In 546 making grants or loans, funding priority must be given to 547 projects in accordance with s. 373.0831(4). Without diminishing 548 amounts available through other means described in this 549 paragraph, the governing boards are encouraged to consider 550 establishing revolving loan funds to expand the total funds Page 20 of 38

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551 available to accomplish the objectives of this section. A 552 revolving loan fund created under this paragraph must be a 553 nonlapsing fund from which the water management district may 554 make loans with interest rates below prevailing market rates to 555 public or private entities for the purposes described in this 556 section. The governing board may adopt resolutions to establish 557 revolving loan funds which must specify the details of the 558 administration of the fund, the procedures for applying for 559 loans from the fund, the criteria for awarding loans from the 560 fund, the initial capitalization of the fund, and the goals for 561 future capitalization of the fund in subsequent budget years. Revolving loan funds created under this paragraph must be used 562 563 to expand the total sums and sources of cooperative funding available for the development of alternative water supplies. The 564 565 Legislature does not intend for the creation of revolving loan funds to supplant or otherwise reduce existing sources or 566 567 amounts of funds currently available through other means. 568 For each utility that receives financial assistance (b)

569 from a water management district for alternative water supply 570 development projects, the appropriate rate-setting authority must develop rate structures for all water, wastewater, and 571 572 other alternative water facilities in the service area of the 573 utility receiving assistance. Rate structures must: 574

- 1. Promote the development of alternative water supply 575 systems. 2. Promote the conservation of water.
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CS 577 3. Appropriately distribute costs among all the users of 578 water, wastewater, and alternative water supplies within the 579 service area. 580 4. Prohibit rate discrimination within classes of utility 581 users. It is the intent of the Legislature that for each 582 reclaimed water utility, or any other utility, which receives funds pursuant to this subsection, the appropriate rate-setting 583 584 authorities should develop rate structures for all water, wastewater, and reclaimed water and other alternative water 585 586 supply utilities in the service area of the funded utility, 587 which accomplish the following: 588 1. Provide meaningful progress toward the development and 589 implementation of alternative water supply systems, including 590 reclaimed water systems; 591 2. Promote the conservation of fresh water withdrawn from 592 natural systems; 593 3. Provide for an appropriate distribution of costs for 594 all water, wastewater, and alternative water supply utilities, including reclaimed water utilities, among all of the users of 595 those utilities; and 596 4. Prohibit rate discrimination within classes of utility 597 598 users. 599 The governing boards shall establish a process for the (C) 600 disbursal of revenues pursuant to this section. Funding 601 assistance provided by the water management districts for a 602 water reuse system project may include the following grant or 603 loan conditions for that project if the water management

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604	district determines that such conditions will encourage water									
605	use efficiency:									
606	1. Metering of reclaimed water use for the following									
607	activities: residential irrigation, agricultural irrigation,									
608	industrial uses except for electric utilities as defined in s.									
609	366.02(2), landscape irrigation, irrigation of other public									
610	access areas, commercial and institutional uses such as toilet									
611	flushing, and transfers to other reclaimed water utilities.									
612	2. Implementation of reclaimed water rate structures based									
613	on actual use of reclaimed water for the types of reuse									
614	activities listed in subparagraph 1.									
615	3. Implementation of education programs to inform the									
616	public about water issues, water conservation, and the									
617	importance and proper use of reclaimed water.									
618	4. Development of location data for key reuse facilities.									
619	(d) After conducting one or more meetings to solicit									
620	public input on eligible projects, including input from those									
621	entities identified pursuant to s. 373.0361 (2)(a)3.d. for									
622	implementation of alternative water supply projects, the									
623	governing board of each water management district shall select									
624	projects for funding assistance based upon the project being									
625	identified or listed as an alternative water supply development									
626	option in the regional water supply plan pursuant to s.									
627	373.0361(2)(a)2. Alternatively, the governing board may select									
628	and allocate up to 20 percent of the grant funding for									
629	alternative water supply projects not identified or listed in									
630	the regional water supply plan but which are consistent with the									
631	goals of said plan. The governing board shall determine those									

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632	projects that will be awarded grant assistance by considering
633	factors established by each governing board, including, but not
634	limited to, the following:
635	1. The quantity of water supplied by the project as
636	compared to its cost.
637	2. Whether the project will be implemented by a
638	multijurisdictional water supply entity or regional water supply
639	authority.
640	3. Whether the project is part of a plan to implement two
641	or more alternative water supply projects, all of which will be
642	operated to produce water at a uniform rate for the participants
643	in a multijurisdictional water supply entity or regional water
644	supply authority.
645	4. The percentage of project costs to be funded by the
646	water supplier or water user.
647	5. Whether the project brings about replacement of
648	traditional sources in order to help implement a minimum flow or
649	level or a reservation.
650	6. Whether the project reduces competition for water
651	supplies.
652	7. Whether the project will be implemented by a
653	consumptive use permittee that has achieved the targets
654	contained in a goal-based water conservation program approved
655	pursuant to s. 373.227.
656	8. Whether the project proposal includes sufficient
657	preliminary planning and engineering to demonstrate that the
658	project can reasonably be implemented within the timeframe
659	identified pursuant to s. 373.0361(2)(a)3.b. Page 24 of 38

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660 9. Whether the project is a subsequent phase of an 661 alternative water supply project that is underway. 10. Whether the project provides substantial environmental 662 663 benefits by preventing or limiting adverse water resource 664 impacts. 11. Whether and in what amount a local government or local 665 666 governmental utility grant applicant is transferring water 667 supply system revenues to the local government general fund in 668 excess of reimbursements for services received from the general 669 fund, including direct and indirect costs and legitimate 670 payments in lieu of taxes. In order to be eligible for funding 671 pursuant to this subsection, a project must be consistent with a 672 local government comprehensive plan and the governing body of 673 the local government must require all appropriate new facilities 674 within the project's service area to connect to and use the 675 project's alternative water supplies. The appropriate local 676 government must provide written notification to the appropriate 677 district that the proposed project is consistent with the local government comprehensive plan. 678 679 (e) Any and all revenues disbursed pursuant to this 680 subsection shall be applied only for the payment of capital or 681 infrastructure costs for the construction of alternative water 682 supply systems that provide alternative water supplies. 683 (f) By January 1 of each year, the governing boards shall 684 make available written guidelines for the disbursal of revenues 685 pursuant to this subsection. Such guidelines shall include at 686 minimum:

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687 An application process and a deadline for filing 1. 688 applications annually. 689 2. A process for determining project eligibility pursuant 690 to the requirements of paragraphs (d) and (e). 691 3. A process and criteria for funding projects pursuant to 692 this subsection that cross district boundaries or that serve 693 more than one district. 694 (g) The governing board of each water management district shall establish an alternative water supplies grants advisory 695 696 committee to recommend to the governing board projects for 697 funding pursuant to this subsection. The advisory committee 698 members shall include, but not be limited to, one or more 699 representatives of county, municipal, and investor-owned private 700 utilities, and may include, but not be limited to, 701 representatives of agricultural interests and environmental 702 interests. Each committee member shall represent his or her 703 interest group as a whole and shall not represent any specific 704 entity. The committee shall apply the guidelines and project 705 eligibility criteria established by the governing board in 706 reviewing proposed projects. After one or more hearings to 707 solicit public input on eligible projects, the committee shall 708 rank the eligible projects and shall submit them to the 709 governing board for final funding approval. The advisory 710 committee may submit to the governing board more projects than 711 the available grant money would fund. 712 (e)(h) All revenues made available annually pursuant to 713 this subsection must be encumbered annually by the governing

714 board if it approves projects sufficient to expend the available Page 26 of 38

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715 revenues. Funds must be disbursed within 36 months after 716 encumbrance.

717 (i) For purposes of this subsection, alternative water 718 supplies are supplies of water that have been reclaimed after 719 one or more public supply, municipal, industrial, commercial, or 720 agricultural uses, or are supplies of stormwater, or brackish or 721 salt water, that have been treated in accordance with applicable 722 rules and standards sufficient to supply the intended use.

723 (f)(j) This subsection shall not be subject to the 724 rulemaking requirements of chapter 120.

725 (g) (k) By March 1 January 30 of each year, as part of a consolidated annual report, each water management district shall 726 727 submit an annual report to the Governor, the President of the 728 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which 729 accounts for the disbursal of all budgeted amounts pursuant to 730 this section subsection. Such report shall describe all 731 alternative water supply projects funded as well as the quantity 732 of new water to be created as a result of such projects and 733 shall account separately for any other moneys provided through 734 grants, matching grants, revolving loans, and the use of 735 district lands or facilities to implement regional water supply 736 plans.

737 (h)(1) The Florida Public Service Commission shall allow 738 entities under its jurisdiction constructing or participating in 739 constructing facilities that provide alternative water supplies 740 supply facilities, including but not limited to aquifer storage 741 and recovery wells, to recover the full, prudently incurred cost 742 of such facilities through their rate structure. If construction 748 Public Service Commission shall allow 749 Page 27 of 38

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743 <u>of a facility or participating in construction is pursuant to or</u> 744 <u>in furtherance of a regional water supply plan, the cost shall</u> 745 <u>be deemed prudently incurred.</u> Every component of an alternative 746 water supply facility constructed by an investor-owned utility 747 shall be recovered in current rates.

748 (4) FUNDING FOR REUSE.--Funding assistance provided by the 749 water management districts for a water reuse system may include 750 the following grant or loan conditions for that project if a 751 water management district determines that such conditions will 752 encourage water use efficiency:

753 (a) Metering of reclaimed water use for residential 754 irrigation, agricultural irrigation, industrial uses, except for 755 electric utilities as defined in s. 366.02(2), landscape 756 irrigation, golf course irrigation, irrigation of other public 757 access areas, commercial and institutional uses such as toilet 758 flushing, and transfers to other reclaimed water utilities;

759 (b) Implementation of reclaimed water rate structures 760 based on actual use of reclaimed water for the reuse activities 761 listed in paragraph (a);

(c) Implementation of education programs to inform the public about water issues, water conservation, and the importance and proper use of reclaimed water; or (d) Development of location data for key reuse facilities. Section 5. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 373.1962,

767 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

768 373.1962 Regional water supply authorities.--

(1) By interlocal agreement between counties,

770 municipalities, or special districts, as applicable agreement Page 28 of 38

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771 between local governmental units created or existing pursuant to 772 the provisions of Art. VIII of the State Constitution, pursuant 773 to the Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969, s. 163.01, 774 and upon the approval of the Secretary of Environmental 775 Protection to ensure that such agreement will be in the public 776 interest and complies with the intent and purposes of this act, 777 regional water supply authorities may be created for the purpose 778 of developing, recovering, storing, and supplying water for 779 county or municipal purposes in such a manner as will give 780 priority to reducing adverse environmental effects of excessive 781 or improper withdrawals of water from concentrated areas. In 782 approving said agreement the Secretary of Environmental 783 Protection shall consider, but not be limited to, the following:

(a) Whether the geographic territory of the proposed
authority is of sufficient size and character to reduce the
environmental effects of improper or excessive withdrawals of
water from concentrated areas.

(b) The maximization of economic development of the waterresources within the territory of the proposed authority.

790 (c) The availability of a dependable and adequate water791 supply.

(d) The ability of any proposed authority to design, construct, operate, and maintain water supply facilities in the locations, and at the times necessary, to ensure that an adequate water supply will be available to all citizens within the authority.

 797 (e) The effect or impact of any proposed authority on any
 798 municipality, county, or existing authority or authorities. Page 29 of 38

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799 (f) The existing needs of the water users within the area 800 of the authority. 801 Each county, special district, or municipality which (5) 802 is a party to an agreement pursuant to subsection (1) shall have 803 a preferential right to purchase water from the regional water 804 supply authority for use by such county, special district, or 805 municipality. Section 6. Subsection (9) is added to section 373.1963, 806 807 Florida Statutes, to read: 808 373.1963 Assistance to West Coast Regional Water Supply

809 Authority.--

810 (9) A regional water supply authority created pursuant to 811 this section may not transfer water from a source located within 812 the boundaries of a nonmember local government without prior 813 consent of the nonmember local government.

814 Section 7. Subsection (5) is added to section 373.223, 815 Florida Statutes, to read:

816

373.223 Conditions for a permit.--

817 (5) In evaluating an application by a regional water 818 supply authority or a multijurisdictional water supply entity for consumptive use of water that proposes the use of an 819 820 alternative water supply project as described in the regional water supply plan and that provides reasonable assurances of the 821 822 applicant's capability to design, construct, operate, and 823 maintain such project, the governing board or department shall 824 presume the alternative water supply use is consistent with the 825 public interest under s. 373.223(1)(c). Nothing in this 826 subsection shall affect evaluation of the use pursuant to the

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CS 827 provisions of ss. 373.223(1)(a), 373.223(1)(b), 373.223(2), 373.223(3), 373.2295, and 373.233. 828 829 Section 8. Subsection (4) is added to section 373.236, 830 Florida Statutes, to read: 831 373.236 Duration of permits; compliance reports.--832 Permits approved for the development of alternative (4) water supplies shall be granted for a term of at least 20 years. 833 834 However, if the permittee issues bonds for the construction of 835 the project, then, upon request of the permittee prior to the expiration of the permit, such permit shall be extended for such 836 837 additional time as may be required for the retirement of bonds, not including any refunding or refinancing of such bonds, 838 839 provided that the governing board determines that the use 840 continues to meet the conditions for the issuance of the permit. Such a permit shall be subject to compliance reports under 841 842 subsection (3). 843 Section 9. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 844 373.036, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 845 373.036 Florida water plan; district water management 846 plans.--847 FLORIDA WATER PLAN. -- In cooperation with the water (1)848 management districts, regional water supply authorities, and 849 others, the department shall develop the Florida water plan. The 850 Florida water plan shall include, but not be limited to: 851 (d) Goals, objectives, and guidance for the development 852 and review of programs, rules, and plans relating to water 853 resources, based on statutory policies and directives. The state 854 water policy rule, renamed the water resource implementation Page 31 of 38

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855 rule pursuant to s. 373.019(23)(20), shall serve as this part of 856 the plan. Amendments or additions to this part of the Florida 857 water plan shall be adopted by the department as part of the 858 water resource implementation rule. In accordance with s. 373.114, the department shall review rules of the water 859 860 management districts for consistency with this rule. Amendments to the water resource implementation rule must be adopted by the 861 862 secretary of the department and be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives 863 864 within 7 days after publication in the Florida Administrative 865 Weekly. Amendments shall not become effective until the 866 conclusion of the next regular session of the Legislature 867 following their adoption.

868 Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 373.421, Florida 869 Statutes, is amended to read:

870

373.421 Delineation methods; formal determinations.--

871 The Environmental Regulation Commission shall adopt a (1)unified statewide methodology for the delineation of the extent 872 873 of wetlands as defined in s. 373.019(25)(22). This methodology 874 shall consider regional differences in the types of soils and 875 vegetation that may serve as indicators of the extent of 876 wetlands. This methodology shall also include provisions for 877 determining the extent of surface waters other than wetlands for 878 the purposes of regulation under s. 373.414. This methodology 879 shall not become effective until ratified by the Legislature. 880 Subsequent to legislative ratification, the wetland definition 881 in s. 373.019(25)(22) and the adopted wetland methodology shall 882 be binding on the department, the water management districts, Page 32 of 38

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883 local governments, and any other governmental entities. Upon 884 ratification of such wetland methodology, the Legislature 885 preempts the authority of any water management district, state 886 or regional agency, or local government to define wetlands or 887 develop a delineation methodology to implement the definition 888 and determines that the exclusive definition and delineation methodology for wetlands shall be that established pursuant to 889 890 s. 373.019(25)(22) and this section. Upon such legislative 891 ratification, any existing wetlands definition or wetland 892 delineation methodology shall be superseded by the wetland 893 definition and delineation methodology established pursuant to 894 this chapter. Subsequent to legislative ratification, a 895 delineation of the extent of a surface water or wetland by the 896 department or a water management district, pursuant to a formal 897 determination under subsection (2), or pursuant to a permit issued under this part in which the delineation was field-898 899 verified by the permitting agency and specifically approved in the permit, shall be binding on all other governmental entities 900 901 for the duration of the formal determination or permit. All 902 existing rules and methodologies of the department, the water 903 management districts, and local governments, regarding surface 904 water or wetland definition and delineation shall remain in full 905 force and effect until the common methodology rule becomes effective. However, this shall not be construed to limit any 906 907 power of the department, the water management districts, and 908 local governments to amend or adopt a surface water or wetland 909 definition or delineation methodology until the common 910 methodology rule becomes effective.

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911 Section 11. Paragraphs (r) and (u) of subsection (2) of 912 section 403.813, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 403.813 Permits issued at district centers; exceptions.--913 914 A permit is not required under this chapter, chapter (2) 915 373, chapter 61-691, Laws of Florida, or chapter 25214 or 916 chapter 25270, 1949, Laws of Florida, for activities associated with the following types of projects; however, except as 917 otherwise provided in this subsection, nothing in this 918 subsection relieves an applicant from any requirement to obtain 919 920 permission to use or occupy lands owned by the Board of Trustees 921 of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund or any water management 922 district in its governmental or proprietary capacity or from 923 complying with applicable local pollution control programs 924 authorized under this chapter or other requirements of county 925 and municipal governments: 926 The removal of aquatic plants, the removal of (r)

926 (1) The removal of aquatic plants, the removal of 927 tussocks, the associated replanting of indigenous aquatic 928 plants, and the associated removal from lakes of organic 929 detrital material when such planting or removal is performed and 930 authorized by permit or exemption granted under s. 369.20 or s. 931 369.25, provided that:

932 1. Organic detrital material that exists on the surface of 933 natural mineral substrate shall be allowed to be removed to a 934 depth of 3 feet or to the natural mineral substrate, whichever 935 is less;

936 2. All material removed pursuant to this paragraph shall 937 be deposited in an upland site in a manner that will prevent the 938 reintroduction of the material into waters in the state except Page 34 of 38

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939 when spoil material is permitted to be used to create wildlife 940 islands in freshwater bodies of the state when a governmental 941 entity is permitted pursuant to s. 369.20 to create such islands 942 as a part of a restoration or enhancement project;

3. All activities are performed in a manner consistentwith state water quality standards; and

945 4. No activities under this exemption are conducted in 946 wetland areas, as defined by s. 373.019(25)(22), which are 947 supported by a natural soil as shown in applicable United States 948 Department of Agriculture county soil surveys, except when a 949 governmental entity is permitted pursuant to s. 369.20 to 950 conduct such activities as a part of a restoration or 951 enhancement project.

953 The department may not adopt implementing rules for this954 paragraph, notwithstanding any other provision of law.

955 (u) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary in this 956 subsection, a permit or other authorization under chapter 253, 957 chapter 369, chapter 373, or this chapter is not required for an 958 individual residential property owner for the removal of organic 959 detrital material from freshwater rivers or lakes that have a 960 natural sand or rocky substrate and that are not Aquatic 961 Preserves or for the associated removal and replanting of 962 aquatic vegetation for the purpose of environmental enhancement, 963 providing that:

964 1. No activities under this exemption are conducted in 965 wetland areas, as defined by s. 373.019(25)<del>(22)</del>, which are

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966 supported by a natural soil as shown in applicable United States967 Department of Agriculture county soil surveys.

968

2. No filling or peat mining is allowed.

3. No removal of native wetland trees, including, but notlimited to, ash, bay, cypress, gum, maple, or tupelo, occurs.

971 4. When removing organic detrital material, no portion of
972 the underlying natural mineral substrate or rocky substrate is
973 removed.

974 5. Organic detrital material and plant material removed is
975 deposited in an upland site in a manner that will not cause
976 water quality violations.

977 6. All activities are conducted in such a manner, and with
978 appropriate turbidity controls, so as to prevent any water
979 quality violations outside the immediate work area.

Replanting with a variety of aquatic plants native to 980 7. 981 the state shall occur in a minimum of 25 percent of the 982 preexisting vegetated areas where organic detrital material is 983 removed, except for areas where the material is removed to bare 984 rocky substrate; however, an area may be maintained clear of 985 vegetation as an access corridor. The access corridor width may 986 not exceed 50 percent of the property owner's frontage or 50 987 feet, whichever is less, and may be a sufficient length waterward to create a corridor to allow access for a boat or 988 989 swimmer to reach open water. Replanting must be at a minimum 990 density of 2 feet on center and be completed within 90 days 991 after removal of existing aquatic vegetation, except that under 992 dewatered conditions replanting must be completed within 90 days after reflooding. The area to be replanted must extend waterward 993 Page 36 of 38

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994 from the ordinary high water line to a point where normal water 995 depth would be 3 feet or the preexisting vegetation line, 996 whichever is less. Individuals are required to make a reasonable 997 effort to maintain planting density for a period of 6 months 998 after replanting is complete, and the plants, including 999 naturally recruited native aquatic plants, must be allowed to 1000 expand and fill in the revegetation area. Native aquatic plants 1001 to be used for revegetation must be salvaged from the 1002 enhancement project site or obtained from an aquatic plant 1003 nursery regulated by the Department of Agriculture and Consumer 1004 Services. Plants that are not native to the state may not be 1005 used for replanting.

1006 8. No activity occurs any farther than 100 feet waterward 1007 of the ordinary high water line, and all activities must be 1008 designed and conducted in a manner that will not unreasonably 1009 restrict or infringe upon the riparian rights of adjacent upland 1010 riparian owners.

9. The person seeking this exemption notifies the applicable department district office in writing at least 30 days before commencing work and allows the department to conduct a preconstruction site inspection. Notice must include an organic-detrital-material removal and disposal plan and, if applicable, a vegetation-removal and revegetation plan.

1017 10. The department is provided written certification of 1018 compliance with the terms and conditions of this paragraph 1019 within 30 days after completion of any activity occurring under 1020 this exemption.

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1021 Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 556.102, Florida 1022 Statutes, is amended to read:

556.102 Definitions.--As used in this act:

1024 (6) "Excavate" or "excavation" means any manmade cut, 1025 cavity, trench, or depression in the earth's surface, formed by 1026 removal of earth, intended to change the grade or level of land, 1027 or intended to penetrate or disturb the surface of the earth, 1028 including land beneath the waters of the state, as defined in s. 1029 373.019(20)(17), and the term includes pipe bursting and 1030 directional drilling or boring from one point to another point 1031 beneath the surface of the earth, or other trenchless technologies. 1032

1033 Section 13. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 1034 law.

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