By the Committees on Government Efficiency Appropriations; Commerce and Consumer Services; Agriculture; and Senators Smith and Argenziano

593-2405-06

| 1 | A bill to be entitled |
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| 2 | An act relating to the Department of |
| 3 | Agriculture and Consumer Services; amending s. |
| 4 | 482.021, F.S.; revising the definitions of the |
| 5 | terms "employee" and "independent contractor" |
| 6 | for purposes of pest control regulation; |
| 7 | amending s. 482.051, F.S.; revising certain |
| 8 | requirements of the department to adopt rules |
| 9 | relating to the use of pesticides for |
| 10 | preventing subterranean termites in new |
| 11 | construction; amending s. 482.091, F.S.; |
| 12 | clarifying provisions governing the performance |
| 13 | of pest control services; amending s. 482.156, |
| 14 | F.S.; requiring certification of individual |
| 15 | commercial landscape maintenance personnel; |
| 16 | revising the types of materials such personnel |
| 17 | may use; removing obsolete provisions relating |
| 18 | to fees; revising criteria for eligibility to |
| 19 | take the commercial landscape maintenance |
| 20 | personnel examination; clarifying requirements |
| 21 | relating to proof of education and insurance; |
| 22 | amending s. 482.211, F.S.; clarifying exemption |
| 23 | of certain mosquito-control activities from |
| 24 | regulation; amending s. 500.033, F.S.; renaming |
| 25 | the Florida Food Safety and Food Security |
| 26 | Advisory Council as the Florida Food Safety and |
| 27 | Food Defense Advisory Council and revising |
| 28 | duties accordingly; creating s. 570.954, F.S.; |
| 29 | creating the Farm-to-Fuel Initiative; providing |
| 30 | the purpose of the initiative and authorizing |
| 31 | the department to conduct an education program; |

| 1 | providing for coordination between the |
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| 2 | department and the Department of Environmental |
| 3 | Protection; amending s. 582.06, F.S.; revising |
| 4 | the membership of the Soil and Water |
| 5 | Conservation Council; amending s. 828.30, F.S.; |
| 6 | updating references to the Rabies Vaccination |
| 7 | Certificate; amending s. 403.067, F.S.; |
| 8 | clarifying rules adopted by the department |
| 9 | relating to best-management practices; |
| 10 | clarifying the authority for certain measures |
| 11 | to be implemented by the Department of |
| 12 | Environmental Protection for certain water |
| 13 | bodies; repealing s. 482.211(11), F.S., |
| 14 | relating to an exemption from ch. 482, F.S., |
| 15 | provided for a yard worker when applying a |
| 16 | pesticide to the lawn or ornamental plants of |
| 17 | an individual residential property owner under |
| 18 | certain circumstances; designating the "Austin |
| 19 | Dewey Gay Agricultural Inspection Station" in |
| 20 | Escambia County; amending s. 500.12, F.S.; |
| 21 | exempting certain producers of sugar cane or |
| 22 | sorghum syrup from permitting requirements; |
| 23 | amending s. 570.249, F.S.; expanding the |
| 24 | conditions under which loan funds to certain |
| 25 | agricultural producers may be granted; |
| 26 | increasing the maximum amount of a loan; |
| 27 | providing definitions; providing an effective |
| 28 | date. |
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| 30 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: |
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| 1 | Section 1. Subsections (7) and (12) of section |
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| 2 | 482.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: |
| 3 | 482.021 DefinitionsFor the purposes of this |
| 4 | chapter, and unless otherwise required by the context, the |
| 5 | term: |
| 6 | (7) "Employee" means a person who is employed by a |
| 7 | licensee that provides that person with necessary training, |
| 8 | supervision, pesticides, equipment, and insurance and who |
| 9 | receives compensation from and is under the personal |
| 10 | supervision and <u>direct</u> control of the <u>licensee's certified</u> |
| 11 | operator in charge and licensee from whose which compensation |
| 12 | of the licensee regularly deducts and matches federal |
| 13 | insurance contributions and federal income and Social Security |
| 14 | taxes. |
| 15 | (12) "Independent contractor" means an entity separate |
| 16 | from the licensee that: |
| 17 | (a) Receives moneys from a customer which are |
| 18 | deposited in a bank account other than that of the licensee; |
| 19 | (b) Owns or supplies its own service vehicle, |
| 20 | equipment, and pesticides; or |
| 21 | (c) Maintains a business operation, office, or support |
| 22 | staff independent of the licensee's direct control; |
| 23 | (d) Pays its own operating expenses such as fuel, |
| 24 | equipment, pesticides, and materials; or |
| 25 | (e)(c) Pays its own workers' worker's compensation as |
| 26 | an independent contractor. |
| 27 | Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 482.051, Florida |
| 28 | Statutes, is amended to read: |
| 29 | 482.051 RulesThe department has authority to adopt |
| 30 | rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the |
| 31 | provisions of this chapter. Prior to proposing the adoption of |

a rule, the department shall counsel with members of the pest control industry concerning the proposed rule. The department shall adopt rules for the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of pest control employees and the general public which require:

treatment for preconstruction treatments for the prevention of subterranean termites in new construction be applied in the amount, concentration, and treatment area in accordance with the label; that a copy of the label of the registered pesticide being applied be carried in a vehicle at the site where the pesticide is being applied; and that the licensee maintain for 3 years the record of each preconstruction treatment, indicating the date of treatment, the location or address of the property treated, the total square footage of the structure treated, the type of pesticide applied, the concentration of each substance in the mixture applied, and the total amount of pesticide applied.

Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 482.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

482.091 Employee identification cards.--

(2)(a) An identification cardholder must be an employee of the licensee and work under the direction and supervision of the licensee's certified operator in charge and shall may not be an independent contractor. An identification cardholder shall operate may perform only pest control services out of, and or for customers assigned arising from, the licensee's licensed business location. An identification cardholder shall may not perform any pest control independently of and without the knowledge of the licensee and

the licensee's certified operator in charge and $\frac{\text{shall }}{\text{may}}$ perform pest control only for the licensee's customers.

Section 4. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 482.156, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

482.156 Limited certification for commercial landscape maintenance personnel.--

- certification category for <u>individual</u> commercial landscape maintenance personnel to authorize them to apply herbicides for controlling weeds in plant beds and to perform integrated pest management on ornamental plants using the following materials: insecticides and fungicides having the signal word "caution" but not having the word "warning" or "danger" on the label, insecticidal soaps, horticultural oils, and bacillus thuringiensis formulations. The application equipment that may be used by a person certified pursuant to this section is limited to portable, handheld 3-gallon compressed air sprayers or backpack sprayers having no more than a 5-gallon capacity and does not include power equipment.
- (2)(a) A person seeking limited certification under this section must pass an examination given by the department. Each application for examination must be accompanied by an examination fee set by rule of the department, in an amount of not more than \$150 or less than \$50; however, until a rule setting this fee is adopted by the department, the examination fee is \$50. Prior to the department's issuing a limited certification under this section, each person applying making application for the certification under this section must furnish proof of having a certificate of insurance which states that the employer meets the requirements for minimum

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financial responsibility for bodily injury and property damage required by s. 482.071(4).

- (b) To be eligible to take the examination, an applicant must have completed 6 8 classroom hours of plant bed and ornamental continuing education training approved by the department and provide sufficient proof, according to criteria established by department rule, that the applicant has been in the landscape maintenance business for at least 3 years.
- (b) The department shall provide the appropriate reference materials for the examination and make the examination readily accessible and available to applicants at least quarterly or as necessary in each county.
- (3) An application for recertification under this section must be made annually and be accompanied by a recertification fee set by $\underline{\text{rule of}}$ the department, in an amount of not more than \$75 or less than \$25; however, until a rule setting this fee is adopted by the department, the fee for recertification is \$25. The application must also be accompanied by proof of having completed 4 classroom hours of acceptable continuing education and the same proof of having a certificate of insurance as is required for issuance of this initial certification. After a grace period not exceeding 30 calendar days following the annual date that recertification is due, a late renewal charge of \$50 shall be assessed and must be paid in addition to the renewal fee. Unless timely recertified, a certificate automatically expires 180 calendar days after the anniversary recertification date. Subsequent to such expiration, a certificate may be issued only upon successful reexamination and upon payment of the examination fees due.

Section 5. Subsection (7) of section 482.211, Florida 2 Statutes, is amended to read: 482.211 Exemptions. -- This chapter does not apply to: 3 (7) Area Mosquito control activities conducted by a 4 local government or district established under chapter 388 or 5 by special act or by a contractor of the local government or 7 district. 8 Section 6. Section 500.033, Florida Statutes, is 9 amended to read: 10 500.033 Florida Food Safety and Food Defense Security 11 Advisory Council. --12 (1) There is created the Florida Food Safety and Food 13 Defense Security Advisory Council for the purpose of serving as a forum for presenting, investigating, and evaluating 14 issues of current importance to the assurance of a safe and 15 secure food supply to the citizens of Florida. The Florida 16 Food Safety and Food <u>Defense</u> Security Advisory Council shall consist of, but not be limited to: the Commissioner of 18 Agriculture or his or her designee; the Secretary of Health or 19 his or her designee; the Secretary of Business and 20 21 Professional Regulation or his or her designee; the person 22 responsible for domestic security with the Florida Department 23 of Law Enforcement; members representing the production, processing, distribution, and sale of foods; consumers or 2.4 and/or members of citizens groups; representatives of or food 25 industry groups; scientists or other experts in aspects of 26 27 food safety from state universities; representatives from local, state, and federal agencies that are charged with 29 responsibilities for food safety or food defense security; the chairs of the Agriculture Committees of the Senate and the 30

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the committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives with jurisdictional oversight of home defense issues or their designees. The Commissioner of Agriculture shall appoint the remaining members. The council shall make periodic reports to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services concerning findings and recommendations in the area of food safety and food <u>defense</u> security.

(2) The council shall consider the development of appropriate advice or recommendations on food safety or food defense security issues. In the discharge of their duties, the council members may receive for review confidential data exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1); however, it is unlawful for any member of the council to use the data for his or her advantage or reveal the data to the general public.

Section 7. Section 570.954, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

570.954 Farm-to-fuel initiative.--

- (1) The department may develop a farm-to-fuel initiative to enhance the market for and promote the production and distribution of renewable energy from Florida-grown crops, agricultural wastes and residues, and other biomass and to enhance the value of agricultural products or expand agribusiness in the state.
- (2) The department may conduct a statewide comprehensive information and education program aimed at educating the general public about the benefits of renewable energy and the use of alternative fuels.
- (3) The department shall coordinate with and solicit the expertise of the state energy office within the Department of Environmental Protection when developing and implementing this initiative.

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Section 8. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of 2 section 582.06, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 582.06 Soil and Water Conservation Council; powers and 3 4 duties.--5 (1) COMPOSITION. -- The Soil and Water Conservation Council is created in the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and shall be composed of 23 members as 8 follows: 9 (b) Twelve nonvoting ex officio members shall include one representative each from the Department of Environmental 10 Protection, the five water management districts, the Institute 11 of Food and Agricultural Sciences at the University of 13 Florida, the United States Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Florida Association of 14 Counties, and the Florida League of Cities, and two 15 representatives of environmental interests. 16 17 (c) All members shall be appointed by the 18 commissioner. Ex officio Members appointed pursuant to paragraph (b) shall be appointed by the commissioner from 19 recommendations provided by the organization or interest 20 21 represented. 22 Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 828.30, Florida 23 Statutes, is amended to read: 828.30 Rabies vaccination of dogs, cats, and 2.4 ferrets.--25 (3) Upon vaccination against rabies, the licensed 26 27 veterinarian shall provide the animal's owner and the animal 2.8 control authority with a rabies vaccination certificate. Each

animal control authority and veterinarian shall use the Form

51, "Rabies Vaccination Certificate," of the National

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an equivalent form approved by the local government that
contains all the information required by the NASPHV Rabies

Vaccination Certificate Form 51. The veterinarian who
administers the rabies vaccine to an animal as required under
this section may affix his or her signature stamp in lieu of
an actual signature.

Section 10. Paragraph (c) of subsection (7) and subsection (11) of section 403.067, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

403.067 Establishment and implementation of total maximum daily loads.--

- (7) DEVELOPMENT OF BASIN MANAGEMENT PLANS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS.--
 - (c) Best management practices .--
- 1. The department, in cooperation with the water management districts and other interested parties, as appropriate, may develop suitable interim measures, best management practices, or other measures necessary to achieve the level of pollution reduction established by the department for nonagricultural nonpoint pollutant sources in allocations developed pursuant to subsection (6) and this subsection.

 These practices and measures may be adopted by rule by the department and the water management districts pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, and, where adopted by rule, shall be implemented by those parties responsible for nonagricultural nonpoint source pollution.
- 2. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may develop and adopt by rule pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 suitable interim measures, best management practices, or other measures necessary to achieve the level of pollution reduction established by the department for agricultural

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pollutant sources in allocations developed pursuant to subsection (6) and this subsection or for programs implemented pursuant to paragraph (11)(b). These practices and measures may be implemented by those parties responsible for agricultural pollutant sources and the department, the water management districts, and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall assist with implementation. In the process of developing and adopting rules for interim measures, best management practices, or other measures, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall consult with the department, the Department of Health, the water management districts, representatives from affected farming groups, and environmental group representatives. Such rules shall also incorporate provisions for a notice of intent to implement the practices and a system to assure the implementation of the practices, including recordkeeping requirements.

3. Where interim measures, best management practices, or other measures are adopted by rule, the effectiveness of such practices in achieving the levels of pollution reduction established in allocations developed by the department pursuant to subsection (6) and this subsection or in programs implemented pursuant to paragraph (11)(b) shall be verified at representative sites by the department. The department shall use best professional judgment in making the initial verification that the best management practices are reasonably expected to be effective and, where applicable, shall notify the appropriate water management district or and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services of its initial verification prior to the adoption of a rule proposed pursuant to this paragraph. Implementation, in accordance with rules adopted under this paragraph, of practices that have been

initially verified to be effective, or verified to be 2 effective by monitoring at representative sites, by the department, shall provide a presumption of compliance with 3 state water quality standards and release from the provisions 4 of s. 376.307(5) for those pollutants addressed by the 5 practices, and the department is not authorized to institute 7 proceedings against the owner of the source of pollution to 8 recover costs or damages associated with the contamination of 9 surface water or groundwater caused by those pollutants. 10 Research funded by the department, a water management district, or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer 11 12 Services to develop or demonstrate interim measures or 13 best-management practices is granted a presumption of compliance with state water quality standards and release from 14 s. 376.307(5) which is limited to the research site for those 15 pollutants addressed by the practices. 16

4. Where water quality problems are demonstrated, despite the appropriate implementation, operation, and maintenance of best management practices and other measures according to rules adopted under this paragraph, the department, a water management district, or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, in consultation with the department, shall institute a reevaluation of the best management practice or other measure. Should the reevaluation determine that the best management practice or other measure requires modification, the department, a water management district, or the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, as appropriate, shall revise the rule to require implementation of the modified practice within a reasonable time period as specified in the rule.

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- 5. Individual agricultural records relating to 2 processes or methods of production, or relating to costs of production, profits, or other financial information which are 3 otherwise not public records, which are reported to the 4 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services pursuant to 5 6 subparagraphs 3. and 4. or pursuant to any rule adopted 7 pursuant to subparagraph 2. shall be confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State 8 Constitution. Upon request of the department or any water 9 management district, the Department of Agriculture and 10 Consumer Services shall make such individual agricultural 11 12 records available to that agency, provided that the 13 confidentiality specified by this subparagraph for such records is maintained. This subparagraph is subject to the 14 Open Government Sunset Review Act of 1995 in accordance with 15 s. 119.15, and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2006, unless 16 reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the 18 Legislature. 19
 - 6. The provisions of subparagraphs 1. and 2. shall not preclude the department or water management district from requiring compliance with water quality standards or with current best management practice requirements set forth in any applicable regulatory program authorized by law for the purpose of protecting water quality. Additionally, subparagraphs 1. and 2. are applicable only to the extent that they do not conflict with any rules adopted by the department that are necessary to maintain a federally delegated or approved program.
 - (11) IMPLEMENTATION OF ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS. --
 - (a) The department shall not implement, without prior legislative approval, any additional regulatory authority

pursuant to s. 303(d) of the Clean Water Act or 40 C.F.R. part 2 130, if such implementation would result in water quality discharge regulation of activities not currently subject to 3 4 regulation. 5 (b) Interim measures, best management practices, or 6 other measures may be developed and voluntarily implemented 7 pursuant to paragraph subparagraphs (7)(c)1. and 2. for any 8 water body or segment for which a total maximum daily load or allocation has not been established. The implementation of 9 such pollution control programs may be considered by the 10 department in the determination made pursuant to subsection 11 12 (4).13 Section 11. Subsection (11) of section 482.211, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 14 Section 12. Austin Dewey Gay Agricultural Inspection 15 Station designated; department to erect suitable markers. --16 17 (1) The agricultural inspection station located at or 18 near mile marker 1 on Interstate Highway 10 in Escambia County is designated as "Austin Dewey Gay Memorial Agricultural 19 Inspection Station." 2.0 21 (2) The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is directed to erect suitable markers designating the 22 23 Austin Dewey Gay Memorial Agricultural Inspection Station as described in subsection (1). 2.4 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 25 500.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 26 27 500.12 Food permits; building permits.--2.8 (1)(a) A food permit from the department is required 29 of any person who operates a food establishment or retail food 30 store, except:

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| 1. Persons operating minor food outlets, including, |
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| but not limited to, video stores, that sell commercially |
| prepackaged, nonpotentially hazardous candy, chewing gum, |
| soda, or popcorn, provided the shelf space for those items |
| does not exceed 12 linear feet and no other food is sold by |
| the minor food outlet. |
| 2. Persons subject to continuous, onsite federal or |

- 2. Persons subject to continuous, onsite federal or state inspection.
- 3. Persons selling only legumes in the shell, either parched, roasted, or boiled.
- 4. Persons selling sugar cane or sorghum syrup that
 has been boiled and bottled on a premise located within the
 state. Such bottles must contain a label listing the
 producer's name and street address, all added ingredients, the
 net weight or volume of product, and a statement that reads
 "This product has not been produced in a facility permitted by
 the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services."
 Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 570.249, Florida
- Statutes, is amended to read:
- 570.249 Agricultural Economic Development Program disaster loans and grants and aid.--
 - (1) USE OF LOAN FUNDS.--
- (a) Loan funds to agricultural producers who have experienced crop losses from a natural disaster or a socioeconomic condition or event may be used to:
- 1. Restore or replace essential physical property or remove debris from essential physical property., such as animals, fences, equipment, structural production facilities, and orchard trees;
- 30 <u>2.</u> Pay all or part of production costs associated with the disaster year.÷

| 1 | 3. Pay essential family living expenses.; and |
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| 2 | 4. Restructure farm debts. |
| 3 | (b) To be eligible, agricultural producers must have a |
| 4 | parcel or parcels of land in production not exceeding 300 |
| 5 | acres. |
| 6 | (c) Funds may be issued as direct loans, or as loan |
| 7 | guarantees for up to 90 percent of the total loan, in amounts |
| 8 | not less than \$30,000 nor more than \$300,000 \$250,000. |
| 9 | Applicants must provide at least 10 percent equity. |
| 10 | (d) For purposes of this subsection, the term: |
| 11 | 1. "Losses" means loss or damage to crops, |
| 12 | agricultural products, agricultural facilities, |
| 13 | infrastructure, or farmworker housing. |
| 14 | 2. "Essential physical property" means fences, |
| 15 | equipment, structural production facilities such as shade |
| 16 | houses and greenhouses, other agricultural facilities, |
| 17 | infrastructure, or farmworker housing. |
| 18 | Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006. |
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| 1 2 | STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR <u>CS/CS/SB 1388</u> |
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| 4 | The committee substitute for committee substitute for committee substitute for SB 1388: |
| 5 6 | 1) Deletes Section 14 which appropriates \$5,500,000 from the General Revenue Fund to the department to implement the |
| 7 | Farms to Fuel Grant Program. |
| 8 9 | 2) Deletes the tax credit against corporate income taxes for the production of ethanol and biodiesel which are produced at Florida facilities and generated from Florida agriculture products. |
| 10 | 3) Exempts persons selling sugar cane or sorghum syrup that |
| 11 | has been bottled on premises located in Florida from obtaining a food permit from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and requires the label |
| 12 | on sugar cane or sorghum syrup to list a street address |
| 13 | and net weight or volume of the product to conform to the federal labeling code. |
| 14 | 4) Expands the conditions under which loan funds may be granted from the Agricultural Economic Development |
| 15 | Program. It increases the cap on loans from \$250,000 to \$300,000. |
| 16 | 5) Creates the Farm to Fuel Initiative to market and promote |
| 17 18 | the production and distribution of renewable energy from Florida-grown crops, agricultural wastes and residues, and other biomass. |
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