

Bill No. SB 980

Barcode 650230

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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The Committee on Community Affairs (Bennett) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause,

and insert:

Section 1. Section 163.3207, Florida Statutes is created to read:

163.3207 Substation approval process.--

(1) It is the intent of the Legislature to maintain, encourage, and assure adequate and reliable electrical infrastructure in the state. It is essential that electric infrastructure be constructed and maintained in various locations in order to ensure the efficient and reliable delivery of electric service.

(2) Electric substations are a critical component of electric transmission and distribution. Local governments may adopt and enforce reasonable land development regulations for new substations addressing only setback, landscaping, buffering, or screening standards. In power line aerial access

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1 points to the substation equipment, vegetation shall not be
 2 required to have a mature height in excess of 14 feet.
 3 Substations shall be a permissible use in all land use
 4 categories and zoning districts within a utility's service
 5 territory; however environmentally sensitive locations,
 6 including conservation areas, should be avoided to the maximum
 7 extent practicable. If a local government has not adopted land
 8 development regulations with reasonable standards for
 9 substation siting, a substation shall be permitted of right
 10 upon meeting the following standards:

11 a. In non-residential areas, the substation must
 12 comply with the setback and landscaped buffer area criteria
 13 applicable to other uses in that district.

14 b. In residential areas, a setback of up to 100 feet
 15 between the substation property boundary and permanent
 16 equipment structures shall be maintained as follows:

17 (1) For setbacks between 100 feet and 50 feet, a
 18 landscaped area having trees and shrub material with a
 19 security fence around the substation equipment shall be
 20 installed, creating an open, green park-like setting.

21 (2) For setbacks between 25 feet and 49 feet, an
 22 8-foot buffer wall or 8-foot fence with landscaping shall be
 23 installed around the substation.

24 (3) For setbacks of less than 25 feet, a decorative
 25 wall or facade at least 10 feet in height shall be installed
 26 around the substation, with exterior landscaping.

27 Section 2. Section 163.3209, Florida Statutes, is
 28 created to read:

29 163.3209 Electric power line right-of-way
 30 maintenance.--

31 After a right-of-way for any electric power line has

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1 been established, no local government shall require any
 2 permits or other approvals for vegetation management and tree
 3 trimming, within said established right-of-way. Upon the
 4 request of the local government, the electric utility shall
 5 meet with the local government to discuss the utility's
 6 vegetation maintenance plan, including the utility's trimming
 7 specifications and management practices.

8 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
 9 law.

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12 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

13 And the title is amended as follows:

14 Delete everything before the enacting clause,

15

16 and insert:

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 A bill to be entitled

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 An act relating to energy reliability; creating

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 s. 163.3207, F.S.; relating to substation

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 approval process; creating s. 163.3209, F.S.;

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 relating to electric power right-of-way

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 maintenance; providing for an effective date.

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