By the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation; and Senators Bennett and Haridopolos

592-2304-07

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act creating a study of releases from 3 gambling vessels; requiring the Department of 4 Environmental Protection to conduct a study of 5 wastewater generated and discharged by gambling 6 vessels; requiring monthly reports with certain 7 requirements; requiring discharge data with 8 certain conditions; providing for a final 9 report to the Legislature by February 1, 2009; 10 providing an effective date. 11 12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 13 Section 1. The Department of Environmental Protection 14 shall conduct a study of the wastewater, including sewage, 15 blackwater, graywater, and oily bilge water, generated and 16 17 discharged by gambling vessels to determine the potential for 18 water quality impacts on coastal waters. For the purposes of this study the term "gambling vessels" means a boat, ship, 19 casino boat, watercraft, or barge that is kept, operated, or 2.0 21 maintained for the purpose of gambling and that carries or 22 operates gambling devices for the use of its passengers or 23 otherwise provides facilities for the purpose of gambling, whether within or without the jurisdiction of this state and 2.4 whether the sailing, voyaging, or cruising, or any segment of 2.5 26 the sailing, voyaging, or cruising, begins and ends within 27 this state. The term "gambling vessel" does not include a 2.8 cruise ship as defined in 50 33 C.F.R. s. 101.105. The department shall consider existing studies, research, 29 manufacturer specifications, and other available information 30 on the characteristics of wastewater generated by gambling 31

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

ships and similar vessels; the types and documented 2 effectiveness of wastewater treatment processes or devices used by such vessels, including standard or typical marine 3 4 sanitation devices; and credible water quality impacts on 5 coastal waters attributed to such vessels. The owners of 6 gambling vessels shall provide to the department no later than 7 September 1, 2007, for each vessel owned, the maximum and average numbers of passengers and number of crewpersons for 8 each vessel; the average or typical time duration and number 9 10 of nautical miles of each voyage; the typical route of each voyage; the average number of voyages in each month of the 11 12 year for each vessel; the number and type of wastewater treatment devices on each vessel; holding tank volumes; and 13 the wastewater management, treatment, and discharge practices 14 employed on each vessel. Each owner of a gambling vessel shall 15 provide to the department, beginning September 1, 2007, 16 monthly reports, on a form prescribed by the department and 18 due the 15th day of each month for the preceding month, the following information for each discharge of wastewater: date 19 and time of discharge; volume of discharge; location of 2.0 21 discharge; vessel speed at the time of discharge; and based on sampling, the characteristics of the wastewater discharged, 2.2 23 including concentrations of nitrogen species, phosphorus, pathogens, total suspended solids, biochemical oxygen demand, 2.4 and chlorine. Whenever a vessel has its wastewater pumped out 2.5 at a port or other land-based pump-out facility rather than 26 discharging it, the vessel owner shall report to the 2.7 2.8 department the date, time, location, and volume of each instance of pump-out in its monthly report. The department may 29 require electronic submittal of the monthly reports. The 30 department shall provide a report to the Governor, the 31

1	President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
2	Representatives on its findings by February 1, 2009.
3	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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5	STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
6	Senate Bill 444
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8	The committee substitute provides that the Department of Environmental Protection shall conduct a study of the
9	wastewater including sewage, blackwater, graywater, and oily bilge water generated and discharged by gambling vessels to
10	determine the potential for water quality impacts on coastal waters. Specifies what the department must consider in the
11	study. The report is to be provided to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
12	Representatives by February 1, 2009.
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