

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Pasco County; providing legislative
 3 findings; providing requirements for the Florida Building
 4 Commission for application of certain Florida Building
 5 Code provisions to Pasco County relating to subsidence-
 6 related property damage loss mitigation; requiring the
 7 commission to adopt certain measures by rule; providing an
 8 effective date.

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 10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 12 Section 1. Subsidence-related loss mitigation in Pasco
 13 County; requirements for construction and soil compaction.--

14 (1) The Legislature finds that:

15 (a) The effects of subsidence-related structural damage
 16 within Pasco County is not adequately addressed by the Florida
 17 Building Code in reducing property damage to buildings
 18 constructed in accordance with code requirements and have also
 19 exposed a vulnerability of some construction undertaken prior to
 20 implementation of the Florida Building Code.

21 (b) Subsidence represents a continuing threat to the
 22 health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Pasco County due
 23 to the direct destructive effects of subsidence on structures as
 24 well as the effects of subsidence on sinkhole insurance rates.

25 (c) The mitigation of property damage in Pasco County
 26 constitutes a valid and recognized objective of the Florida
 27 Building Code.

28 (2) The Florida Building Commission shall:

29 (a) Analyze the extent to which a proposed Florida
30 Building Code provision will mitigate property damage to
31 buildings in evaluating that proposal. If the nature of the
32 proposed Florida Building Code provision relates only to
33 mitigation of property damage and not to a life safety concern,
34 the proposal shall be reviewed based on its measurable benefits
35 in relation to the costs imposed.

36 (b) Develop and adopt within the Florida Building Code a
37 means to incorporate recognized mitigation techniques for site-
38 built residential and commercial structures constructed,
39 including, but not limited to:

40 1. Prescriptive techniques for providing a rigid, uniform
41 surface on which to build.

42 2. Prescriptive techniques for reducing the bearing load
43 of a structure to below the allowable soil-bearing pressure of a
44 specific site.

45 3. Prescriptive techniques for providing a structural
46 capacity to carry building loads over relatively small areas of
47 low strength or nonuniform bearing soils.

48 (3) The Legislature finds that the integration of these
49 specifically identified mitigation measures is critical to
50 addressing the serious problem facing Pasco County caused by
51 subsidence-related structural damage and that delay in the
52 adoption and implementation constitutes a threat to the health,
53 safety, and welfare of residents of Pasco County. Accordingly,
54 the Florida Building Commission shall develop and adopt these
55 measures by October 1, 2008, by rule separate from the Florida
56 Building Code, which shall take immediate effect and shall

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57 incorporate such requirements into the next edition of the
58 Florida Building Code.

59 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.