

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to water management districts; reenacting  
3           s. 373.069, F.S., relating to the creation of the water  
4           management districts, pursuant to the provisions of the  
5           Florida Government Accountability Act; amending s.  
6           373.0693, F.S.; limiting the period of time a basin board  
7           member may serve after the end of a term; reducing the  
8           number of members on the Manasota Basin Board; eliminating  
9           the Oklawaha River Basin Advisory Council; removing ex  
10          officio designation of basin board chairs; removing a  
11          restriction on the voting authority of the chair; amending  
12          s. 373.073, F.S.; revising the membership of water  
13          management district governing boards; providing for  
14          appointment of members commencing on a specified date;  
15          amending s. 373.079, F.S.; requiring a water management  
16          district's governing board to delegate to the executive  
17          director its authority to approve certain permits or grant  
18          variances or waivers of permitting requirements;  
19          authorizing water management district governing boards,  
20          basin boards, committees, and advisory boards to conduct  
21          meetings by means of communications media technology;  
22          amending s. 373.083, F.S.; requiring water management  
23          district governing boards to delegate to the water  
24          management district's executive director authority to  
25          approve certain permits or grant variances or waivers of  
26          permitting requirements; amending s. 373.118, F.S.;  
27          removing provisions authorizing water management district  
28          governing boards to delegate authority to issue general

29 | permits to the executive director; amending s. 373.323,  
30 | F.S.; revising application requirements for water well  
31 | contractor licensure; requiring applicants to provide  
32 | specified documentation; amending s. 373.236, F.S.;  
33 | authorizing water management districts to issue 50-year  
34 | consumptive use permits to specified entities for certain  
35 | alternative water supply development projects; providing  
36 | for compliance reporting and review, modification, and  
37 | revocation relating to such permits; authorizing 25-year  
38 | consumptive use permits for renewable energy generating  
39 | facilities and specified lands used in the production of  
40 | renewable energy under certain conditions; providing that  
41 | such permits are subject to compliance reports; amending  
42 | s. 373.243, F.S.; providing for the revocation of certain  
43 | consumptive use permits for renewable energy generating  
44 | facilities and specified lands used in the production of  
45 | renewable energy; amending s. 373.536, F.S.; authorizing  
46 | substantive legislative committee chairs to provide input  
47 | on proposed water management district budgets; amending s.  
48 | 373.584, F.S.; providing a limitation on certain bonding  
49 | for water management districts; authorizing the Joint  
50 | Legislative Budget Commission to approve bonding exceeding  
51 | such limitation; exempting certain outstanding bonds from  
52 | such limitation and its calculation; amending s. 373.59,  
53 | F.S.; expanding water management district lands eligible  
54 | to receive payment in lieu of taxes; revising the method  
55 | used to determine eligibility for such payment; amending  
56 | s. 373.5905, F.S.; providing conditions for reinstatement

CS/HB 7137

2009

57 | of payments in lieu of taxes and their duration; repealing  
 58 | s. 373.465, F.S., to eliminate the Lake Panasoffkee  
 59 | Restoration Council; repealing s. 373.466, F.S., to  
 60 | eliminate the Lake Panasoffkee restoration program;  
 61 | providing an effective date.

62 |

63 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

64 |

65 | Section 1. Section 373.069, Florida Statutes, is  
 66 | reenacted.

67 | Section 2. Subsections (3), (6), and (7) and paragraph (a)  
 68 | of subsection (8) of section 373.0693, Florida Statutes, are  
 69 | amended to read:

70 | 373.0693 Basins; basin boards.--

71 | (3) Each member of the various basin boards shall serve  
 72 | for a period of 3 years or until a successor is appointed, but  
 73 | not more than 180 days after the end of the term, except that  
 74 | the board membership of each new basin shall be divided into  
 75 | three groups as equally as possible, with members in such groups  
 76 | to be appointed for 1, 2, and 3 years, respectively. Each basin  
 77 | board shall choose a vice chair and a secretary to serve for a  
 78 | period of 1 year. The term of office of a basin board member  
 79 | shall be construed to commence on March 2 preceding the date of  
 80 | appointment and to terminate March 1 of the year of the end of a  
 81 | term or may continue until a successor is appointed, but not  
 82 | more than 180 days after the end of the expired term.

83 | (6) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general  
 84 | or special law to the contrary, a member of the governing board

CS/HB 7137

2009

85 of the district residing in the basin or, if no member resides  
86 in the basin, a member of the governing board designated by the  
87 chair of the governing board shall be the ~~ex-officio~~ chair of  
88 the basin board. The ~~ex-officio~~ chair shall preside at all  
89 meetings of the basin board, except that the vice chair may  
90 preside in his or her absence. The ~~ex-officio~~ chair shall ~~have~~  
91 ~~no official vote, except in case of a tie vote being cast by the~~  
92 ~~members, but~~ shall be the liaison officer of the district in all  
93 affairs in the basin and shall be kept informed of all such  
94 affairs.

95 (b) Basin boards within the Southwest Florida Water  
96 Management District shall meet regularly as determined by a  
97 majority vote of the basin board members. Subject to notice  
98 requirements of chapter 120, special meetings, both emergency  
99 and nonemergency, may be called either by the ~~ex-officio~~ chair  
100 or the elected vice chair of the basin board or upon request of  
101 two basin board members. The district staff shall include on the  
102 agenda of any basin board meeting any item for discussion or  
103 action requested by a member of that basin board. The district  
104 staff shall notify any basin board, as well as their respective  
105 counties, of any vacancies occurring in the district governing  
106 board or their respective basin boards.

107 (7) At 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 1976, the Manasota  
108 Watershed Basin of the Ridge and Lower Gulf Coast Water  
109 Management District, which is annexed to the Southwest Florida  
110 Water Management District by change of its boundaries pursuant  
111 to chapter 76-243, Laws of Florida, shall be formed into a  
112 subdistrict or basin of the Southwest Florida Water Management

CS/HB 7137

2009

113 District, subject to the same provisions as the other basins in  
 114 such district. Such subdistrict shall be designated initially as  
 115 the Manasota Basin. The members of the governing board of the  
 116 Manasota Watershed Basin of the Ridge and Lower Gulf Coast Water  
 117 Management District shall become members of the governing board  
 118 of the Manasota Basin of the Southwest Florida Water Management  
 119 District. Notwithstanding other provisions in this section,  
 120 beginning on July 1, 2001, the membership of the Manasota Basin  
 121 Board shall be comprised of two ~~three~~ members from Manatee  
 122 County and two ~~three~~ members from Sarasota County. Matters  
 123 relating to tie votes shall be resolved pursuant to subsection  
 124 (6) by the ~~ex officio~~ chair designated by the governing board to  
 125 vote in case of a tie vote.

126 (8) (a) At 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 1988, the area  
 127 transferred from the Southwest Florida Water Management District  
 128 to the St. Johns River Water Management District by change of  
 129 boundaries pursuant to chapter 76-243, Laws of Florida, shall  
 130 cease to be a subdistrict or basin of the St. Johns River Water  
 131 Management District known as the Oklawaha River Basin and said  
 132 Oklawaha River Basin shall cease to exist. However, any  
 133 recognition of an Oklawaha River Basin or an Oklawaha River  
 134 Hydrologic Basin for regulatory purposes shall be unaffected.  
 135 The area formerly known as the Oklawaha River Basin shall  
 136 continue to be part of the St. Johns River Water Management  
 137 District. ~~There shall be established by the governing board of~~  
 138 ~~the St. Johns River Water Management District the Oklawaha River~~  
 139 ~~Basin Advisory Council to receive public input and advise the~~  
 140 ~~St. Johns River Water Management District's governing board on~~

CS/HB 7137

2009

141 ~~water management issues affecting the Oklawaha River Basin. The~~  
 142 ~~Oklawaha River Basin Advisory Council shall be appointed by~~  
 143 ~~action of the St. Johns River Water Management District's~~  
 144 ~~governing board and shall include one representative from each~~  
 145 ~~county which is wholly or partly included in the Oklawaha River~~  
 146 ~~Basin. The St. Johns River Water Management District's governing~~  
 147 ~~board member currently serving pursuant to s. 373.073(2)(c)3.~~  
 148 ~~shall serve as chair of the Oklawaha River Basin Advisory~~  
 149 ~~Council. Members of the Oklawaha River Basin Advisory Council~~  
 150 ~~shall receive no compensation for their services but are~~  
 151 ~~entitled to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as~~  
 152 ~~provided in s. 112.061.~~

153 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
 154 373.073, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

155 373.073 Governing board.--

156 (1)

157 (b) Commencing January 1, 2011 ~~1999~~, the Governor shall  
 158 appoint the following number of governing board members in each  
 159 year of the Governor's 4-year term of office:

160 1. In the first year of the Governor's term of office, the  
 161 Governor shall appoint four members to the governing board of  
 162 the Southwest Florida Water Management District and appoint  
 163 three members to the governing board of each other district.

164 2. In the second year of the Governor's term of office,  
 165 the Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board  
 166 of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two  
 167 members to the governing board of each other district.

CS/HB 7137

2009

168           3. In the third year of the Governor's term of office, the  
 169 Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board of  
 170 the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two members  
 171 to the governing board of each other district.

172           4. In the fourth year of the Governor's term of office,  
 173 the Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board  
 174 of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two  
 175 members to the governing board of each other district.

176  
 177 For any governing board vacancy that occurs before the date  
 178 scheduled for the office to be filled under this paragraph, the  
 179 Governor shall appoint a person meeting residency requirements  
 180 of subsection (2) for a term that will expire on the date  
 181 scheduled for the term of that office to terminate under this  
 182 subsection. In addition to the residency requirements for the  
 183 governing boards as provided by subsection (2), the Governor  
 184 shall consider appointing governing board members to represent  
 185 an equitable cross-section of regional interests and technical  
 186 expertise.

187           Section 4. Subsections (4) and (7) of section 373.079,  
 188 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

189           373.079 Members of governing board; oath of office;  
 190 staff.--

191           (4) (a) The governing board of the district is authorized  
 192 to employ an executive director, ombudsman, and such engineers,  
 193 other professional persons, and other personnel and assistants  
 194 as it deems necessary and under such terms and conditions as it  
 195 may determine and to terminate such employment. The appointment

CS/HB 7137

2009

196 of an executive director by the governing board is subject to  
 197 approval by the Governor and must be initially confirmed by the  
 198 Florida Senate. The governing board may delegate all or part of  
 199 its authority under this paragraph to the executive director.  
 200 However, the governing board shall delegate to the executive  
 201 director all of its authority to take final action on permit  
 202 applications under part II or part IV or petitions for variances  
 203 or waivers of permitting requirements under part II or part IV,  
 204 except for denials of such actions as provided in s. 373.083(5).  
 205 The executive director must be confirmed by the Senate upon  
 206 employment and must be confirmed or reconfirmed by the Senate  
 207 during the second regular session of the Legislature following a  
 208 gubernatorial election.

209 (b)1. The governing board of each water management  
 210 district shall employ an inspector general, who shall report  
 211 directly to the board. However, the governing boards of the  
 212 Suwannee River Water Management District and the Northwest  
 213 Florida Water Management District may jointly employ an  
 214 inspector general, or provide for inspector general services by  
 215 interagency agreement with a state agency or water management  
 216 district inspector general.

217 2. An inspector general must have the qualifications  
 218 prescribed and perform the applicable duties of state agency  
 219 inspectors general as provided in s. 20.055.

220 (7) The governing board shall meet at least once a month  
 221 and upon call of the chair. The governing board, a basin board,  
 222 a committee, or an advisory board may conduct meetings by means



223 of communications media technology in accordance with rules  
 224 adopted pursuant to s. 120.54.

225 Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 373.083, Florida  
 226 Statutes, is amended to read:

227 373.083 General powers and duties of the governing  
 228 board.--In addition to other powers and duties allowed it by  
 229 law, the governing board is authorized to:

230 (5) Execute any of the powers, duties, and functions  
 231 vested in the governing board through a member or members  
 232 thereof, the executive director, or other district staff as  
 233 designated by the governing board. The governing board may  
 234 establish the scope and terms of any delegation. The ~~However, if~~  
 235 ~~the governing board shall delegate to the executive director all~~  
 236 of its delegates ~~the~~ authority to take final action on permit  
 237 applications under part II or part IV~~7~~, or petitions for  
 238 variances or waivers of permitting requirements under part II or  
 239 part IV. However, the governing board shall provide a process  
 240 for referring any denial of such application or petition to the  
 241 governing board to take final action. Such process shall  
 242 expressly prohibit any member of a governing board from  
 243 intervening in any manner during the review of an application  
 244 prior to such application being referred to the governing board  
 245 for final action. The authority in this subsection is  
 246 supplemental to any other provision of this chapter granting  
 247 authority to the governing board to delegate specific powers,  
 248 duties, or functions.

249 Section 6. Present subsection (4) of section 373.118,  
 250 Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) of that section  
 251 is renumbered as subsection (4), to read:

252 373.118 General permits; delegation.--

253 ~~(4) To provide for greater efficiency, the governing board~~  
 254 ~~may delegate by rule its powers and duties pertaining to general~~  
 255 ~~permits to the executive director. The executive director may~~  
 256 ~~execute such delegated authority through designated staff.~~

257 ~~However, when delegating the authority to take final action on~~  
 258 ~~permit applications under part II or part IV or petitions for~~  
 259 ~~variances or waivers of permitting requirements under part II or~~  
 260 ~~part IV, the governing board shall provide a process for~~  
 261 ~~referring any denial of such application or petition to the~~  
 262 ~~governing board to take such final action.~~

263 Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 373.323, Florida  
 264 Statutes, is amended to read:

265 373.323 Licensure of water well contractors; application,  
 266 qualifications, and examinations; equipment identification.--

267 (3) An applicant who meets the following requirements  
 268 shall be entitled to take the water well contractor licensure  
 269 examination ~~to practice water well contracting:~~

270 (a) Is at least 18 years of age.

271 (b) Has at least 2 years of experience in constructing,  
 272 repairing, or abandoning water wells. Satisfactory proof of such  
 273 experience shall be demonstrated by providing:

274 1. Evidence of the length of time the applicant has been  
 275 engaged in the business of the construction, repair, or  
 276 abandonment of water wells as a major activity, as attested to

277 by a letter from three of the following persons:

278 a. A water well contractor.

279 b. A water well driller.

280 c. A water well parts and equipment vendor.

281 d. A water well inspectors employed by a governmental  
 282 agency.

283 2. A list of at least 10 water wells that the applicant  
 284 has constructed, repaired, or abandoned within the preceding 5  
 285 years. Of these wells, at least seven must have been  
 286 constructed, as defined in s. 373.303(2), by the applicant. The  
 287 list shall also include:

288 a. The name and address of the owner or owners of each  
 289 well.

290 b. The location, primary use, and approximate depth and  
 291 diameter of each well that the applicant has constructed,  
 292 repaired, or abandoned.

293 c. The approximate date the construction, repair, or  
 294 abandonment of each well was completed.

295 (c) Has completed the application form and remitted a  
 296 nonrefundable application fee.

297 Section 8. Subsections (6) and (7) are added to section  
 298 373.236, Florida Statutes, to read:

299 373.236 Duration of permits; compliance reports.--

300 (6) (a) The Legislature finds that the need for alternative  
 301 water supply development projects to meet anticipated public  
 302 water supply demands of the state is so important that it is  
 303 essential to encourage participation in and contribution to  
 304 these projects by private-rural-land owners who

CS/HB 7137

2009

305 characteristically have relatively modest near-term water  
306 demands but substantially increasing demands after the 20-year  
307 planning period in s. 373.0361. Therefore, where such landowners  
308 make extraordinary contributions of lands or construction  
309 funding to enable the expeditious implementation of such  
310 projects, water management districts and the department may  
311 grant permits for such projects for a period of up to 50 years  
312 to municipalities, counties, special districts, regional water  
313 supply authorities, multijurisdictional water supply entities,  
314 and publicly or privately owned utilities, with the exception of  
315 any publicly or privately owned utilities created for or by a  
316 private landowner after April 1, 2008, which have entered into  
317 an agreement with the private landowner for the purpose of more  
318 efficiently pursuing alternative public water supply development  
319 projects identified in a district's regional water supply plan  
320 and meeting water demands of both the applicant and the  
321 landowner.

322 (b) A permit under paragraph (a) may be granted only for  
323 that period for which there is sufficient data to provide  
324 reasonable assurance that the conditions for permit issuance  
325 will be met. Such a permit shall require a compliance report by  
326 the permittee every 5 years during the term of the permit. The  
327 report shall contain sufficient data to maintain reasonable  
328 assurance that the conditions for permit issuance applicable at  
329 the time of district review of the compliance report are met.  
330 After review of this report, the governing board or the  
331 department may modify the permit to ensure that the use meets  
332 the conditions for issuance. This subsection does not limit the

CS/HB 7137

2009

333 existing authority of the department or the governing board to  
334 modify or revoke a consumptive use permit.

335 (7) A permit approved for a renewable energy generating  
336 facility or the cultivation of agricultural products on lands  
337 consisting of 1,000 acres or more for use in the production  
338 renewable energy, as defined in s. 366.91(2)(d), shall be  
339 granted for a term of at least 25 years at the applicant's  
340 request based on the anticipated life of the facility if there  
341 is sufficient data to provide reasonable assurance that the  
342 conditions for permit issuance will be met for the duration of  
343 the permit; otherwise, a permit may be issued for a shorter  
344 duration that reflects the longest period for which such  
345 reasonable assurances are provided. Such a permit is subject to  
346 compliance reports under subsection (4).

347 Section 9. Subsection (4) of section 373.243, Florida  
348 Statutes, is amended to read:

349 373.243 Revocation of permits.--The governing board or the  
350 department may revoke a permit as follows:

351 (4) For nonuse of the water supply allowed by the permit  
352 for a period of 2 years or more, the governing board or the  
353 department may revoke the permit permanently and in whole unless  
354 the user can prove that his or her nonuse was due to extreme  
355 hardship caused by factors beyond the user's control. For a  
356 permit issued pursuant to s. 373.236(7), the governing board or  
357 the department may revoke the permit only if the nonuse of the  
358 water supply allowed by the permit is for a period of 4 years or  
359 more.

360 Section 10. Paragraph (e) of subsection (5) of section

CS/HB 7137

2009

361 373.536, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

362 373.536 District budget and hearing thereon.--

363 (5) TENTATIVE BUDGET CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION; REVIEW AND  
364 APPROVAL.--

365 (e) By September 5 of the year in which the budget is  
366 submitted, the House and Senate appropriations and appropriate  
367 substantive committee chairs may transmit to each district  
368 comments and objections to the proposed budgets. Each district  
369 governing board shall include a response to such comments and  
370 objections in the record of the governing board meeting where  
371 final adoption of the budget takes place, and the record of this  
372 meeting shall be transmitted to the Executive Office of the  
373 Governor, the department, and the chairs of the House and Senate  
374 appropriations committees.

375 Section 11. Subsection (5) is added to section 373.584,  
376 Florida Statutes, to read:

377 373.584 Revenue bonds.--

378 (5) (a) The total annual debt service for bonds issued  
379 pursuant to this section and s. 373.563 may not exceed 20  
380 percent of the annual ad valorem tax revenues of the water  
381 management district, unless approved by the Joint Legislative  
382 Budget Commission.

383 (b) The Joint Legislative Budget Commission is authorized  
384 to review the financial soundness of a water management district  
385 and determine whether bonds may be issued by a water management  
386 district in excess of the limitation provided in paragraph (a).

387 (c) A water management district may not take any action  
388 regarding the issuance of bonds in excess of the limitation of

CS/HB 7137

2009

389 paragraph (a) without prior approval of the Joint Legislative  
 390 Budget Commission pursuant to joint rules of the House of  
 391 Representative and the Senate.

392 (d) Bonds issued and outstanding before January 1, 2009,  
 393 are exempt from this subsection and shall not be included in the  
 394 calculation of the limitation of paragraph (a).

395 (e) This subsection does not affect the validity or  
 396 enforceability of outstanding revenue bonds.

397 Section 12. Subsection (10) of section 373.59, Florida  
 398 Statutes, is amended to read:

399 373.59 Water Management Lands Trust Fund.--

400 (10) (a) Beginning July 1, 1999, not more than one-fourth  
 401 of the funds provided for in subsections (1) and (8) in any year  
 402 shall be reserved annually by a governing board, during the  
 403 development of its annual operating budget, for payments in lieu  
 404 of taxes for all actual ad valorem tax losses incurred as a  
 405 result of all governing board acquisitions for water management  
 406 district purposes ~~districts pursuant to ss. 259.101, 259.105,~~  
 407 ~~373.470, and this section during any year.~~ Reserved funds not  
 408 used for payments in lieu of taxes in any year shall revert to  
 409 the Water Management Lands Trust Fund to be used in accordance  
 410 with the provisions of this section.

411 (b) Payment in lieu of taxes shall be available:

412 1. To all counties that have a population of 150,000 or  
 413 fewer. Population levels shall be determined pursuant to s.  
 414 186.901 ~~11.031~~. The population estimates published April 1 and  
 415 used in the revenue-sharing formula pursuant to s. 186.901 shall

416 be used to determine eligibility under this subsection and shall  
 417 apply to payments made for the subsequent fiscal year.

418 2. To all local governments located in eligible counties  
 419 and whose lands are bought and taken off the tax rolls.

420  
 421 For properties acquired after January 1, 2000, in the event that  
 422 such properties otherwise eligible for payment in lieu of taxes  
 423 under this subsection are leased or reserved and remain subject  
 424 to ad valorem taxes, payments in lieu of taxes shall commence or  
 425 recommence upon the expiration or termination of the lease or  
 426 reservation, ~~but in no event shall there be more than a total of~~  
 427 ~~10 annual payments in lieu of taxes for each tax loss.~~ If the  
 428 lease is terminated for only a portion of the lands at any time,  
 429 the ~~10~~ annual payments shall be made for that portion only  
 430 commencing the year after such termination, without limiting the  
 431 requirement that ~~10~~ annual payments shall be made on the  
 432 remaining portion or portions of the land as the lease on each  
 433 expires. For the purposes of this subsection, "local government"  
 434 includes municipalities and, the county school board, ~~mosquito~~  
 435 ~~control districts, and any other local government entity which~~  
 436 ~~levies ad valorem taxes.~~

437 (c) If sufficient funds are unavailable in any year to  
 438 make full payments to all qualifying counties and local  
 439 governments, such counties and local governments shall receive a  
 440 pro rata share of the moneys available.

441 (d) The payment amount shall be based on the average  
 442 amount of actual ad valorem taxes paid on the property for the 3  
 443 years preceding acquisition. Applications for payment in lieu of



444 taxes shall be made no later than ~~May~~ January 31 of the year for  
 445 which payment is sought ~~following acquisition~~. No payment in  
 446 lieu of taxes shall be made for properties which were exempt  
 447 from ad valorem taxation for the year immediately preceding  
 448 acquisition.

449 (e) If property that was subject to ad valorem taxation  
 450 was acquired by a tax-exempt entity for ultimate conveyance to  
 451 the state under this chapter, payment in lieu of taxes shall be  
 452 made for such property based upon the average amount of ad  
 453 valorem taxes paid on the property for the 3 years prior to its  
 454 being removed from the tax rolls. The water management districts  
 455 shall certify to the Department of Revenue those properties that  
 456 may be eligible under this provision. Once eligibility has been  
 457 established, that governmental entity shall receive annual  
 458 payments for each tax loss until the qualifying governmental  
 459 entity exceeds the population threshold pursuant to paragraph  
 460 (b) ~~s. 259.032(12)(b)~~.

461 (f) Payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to this subsection  
 462 shall be made annually to qualifying counties and local  
 463 governments after certification by the Department of Revenue  
 464 that the amounts applied for are reasonably appropriate, based  
 465 on the amount of actual ad valorem taxes paid on the eligible  
 466 property, and after the water management districts have provided  
 467 supporting documents to the Chief Financial Officer and have  
 468 requested that payment be made in accordance with the  
 469 requirements of this section. With the assistance of the local  
 470 government requesting payment in lieu of taxes, the water  
 471 management district that acquired the land is responsible for

CS/HB 7137

2009

472 preparing and submitting application requests for payment to the  
 473 Department of Revenue for certification.

474 (g) If a water management district conveys to a county or  
 475 local government title to any land owned by the district, any  
 476 payments in lieu of taxes on the land made to the county or  
 477 local government shall be discontinued as of the date of the  
 478 conveyance.

479 Section 13. Section 373.5905, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 480 to read:

481 373.5905 Reinstatement ~~Reinstitution~~ of payments in lieu  
 482 of taxes; duration.--If a water management district has made a  
 483 payment in lieu of taxes to a governmental entity and  
 484 subsequently suspended such payment, beginning July 1, 2009, the  
 485 water management district shall reinstate ~~reinstitute~~  
 486 appropriate payments and continue the payments for as long as  
 487 the county population remains below the population threshold  
 488 pursuant to s. 373.59(10)(b). This section does not authorize or  
 489 provide for payments in arrears ~~in consecutive years until the~~  
 490 ~~governmental entity has received a total of 10 payments for each~~  
 491 ~~tax loss.~~

492 Section 14. Sections 373.465 and 373.466, Florida  
 493 Statutes, are repealed.

494 Section 15. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.