

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 the executive director to execute such  
20          delegated authority through designated staff members;  
21          providing that such delegations are exempt from specified  
22          rulemaking requirements; authorizing water management  
23          district governing boards, basin boards, committees, and  
24          advisory boards to conduct meetings by means of  
25          communications media technology; amending s. 373.083,  
26          F.S.; requiring water management district governing boards  
27          to delegate to the water management district's executive  
28          director authority to approve certain permits or grant

29 | variances or waivers of permitting requirements;  
30 | authorizing the executive director to execute such  
31 | delegated authority through designated staff members;  
32 | providing that such delegations are exempt from specified  
33 | rulemaking requirements; amending s. 373.118, F.S.;  
34 | removing provisions authorizing water management district  
35 | governing boards to delegate authority to issue general  
36 | permits to the executive director; amending s. 373.323,  
37 | F.S.; revising application requirements for water well  
38 | contractor licensure; requiring applicants to provide  
39 | specified documentation; amending s. 373.236, F.S.;  
40 | authorizing water management districts to issue 50-year  
41 | consumptive use permits to specified entities for certain  
42 | alternative water supply development projects; providing  
43 | for compliance reporting and review, modification, and  
44 | revocation relating to such permits; authorizing 25-year  
45 | consumptive use permits for renewable energy generating  
46 | facilities and specified lands used in the production of  
47 | renewable energy under certain conditions; providing that  
48 | such permits are subject to compliance reports; amending  
49 | s. 373.243, F.S.; providing for the revocation of certain  
50 | consumptive use permits for renewable energy generating  
51 | facilities and specified lands used in the production of  
52 | renewable energy; amending s. 373.536, F.S.; authorizing  
53 | substantive legislative committee chairs to provide input  
54 | on proposed water management district budgets; amending s.  
55 | 373.584, F.S.; providing a limitation on certain bonding  
56 | for water management districts; authorizing the Joint

57 | Legislative Budget Commission to approve bonding exceeding  
58 | such limitation; exempting certain outstanding bonds from  
59 | such limitation and its calculation; amending s. 373.59,  
60 | F.S.; expanding water management district lands eligible  
61 | to receive payment in lieu of taxes; revising the method  
62 | used to determine eligibility for such payment; amending  
63 | s. 373.5905, F.S.; providing conditions for reinstatement  
64 | of payments in lieu of taxes and their duration; repealing  
65 | s. 373.465, F.S., to eliminate the Lake Panasoffkee  
66 | Restoration Council; repealing s. 373.466, F.S., to  
67 | eliminate the Lake Panasoffkee restoration program;  
68 | providing an effective date.

69 |  
70 | Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

71 |  
72 | Section 1. Section 373.069, Florida Statutes, is  
73 | reenacted.

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

77 | 373.0693 Basins; basin boards.--

78 | (3) Each member of the various basin boards shall serve  
79 | for a period of 3 years or until a successor is appointed, but  
80 | not more than 180 days after the end of the term, except that  
81 | the board membership of each new basin shall be divided into  
82 | three groups as equally as possible, with members in such groups  
83 | to be appointed for 1, 2, and 3 years, respectively. Each basin  
84 | board shall choose a vice chair and a secretary to serve for a

85 period of 1 year. The term of office of a basin board member  
86 shall be construed to commence on March 2 preceding the date of  
87 appointment and to terminate March 1 of the year of the end of a  
88 term or may continue until a successor is appointed, but not  
89 more than 180 days after the end of the expired term.

90 (6) (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general  
91 or special law to the contrary, a member of the governing board  
92 of the district residing in the basin or, if no member resides  
93 in the basin, a member of the governing board designated by the  
94 chair of the governing board shall be the ~~ex-officio~~ chair of  
95 the basin board. The ~~ex-officio~~ chair shall preside at all  
96 meetings of the basin board, except that the vice chair may  
97 preside in his or her absence. The ~~ex-officio~~ chair shall ~~have~~  
98 ~~no official vote, except in case of a tie vote being cast by the~~  
99 ~~members, but~~ shall be the liaison officer of the district in all  
100 affairs in the basin and shall be kept informed of all such  
101 affairs.

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

112 | counties, of any vacancies occurring in the district governing  
113 | board or their respective basin boards.

114 |       (7) At 11:59 p.m. on December 31, 1976, the Manasota  
115 | Watershed Basin of the Ridge and Lower Gulf Coast Water  
116 | Management District, which is annexed to the Southwest Florida  
117 | Water Management District by change of its boundaries pursuant  
118 | to chapter 76-243, Laws of Florida, shall be formed into a  
119 | subdistrict or basin of the Southwest Florida Water Management  
120 | District, subject to the same provisions as the other basins in  
121 | such district. Such subdistrict shall be designated initially as  
122 | the Manasota Basin. The members of the governing board of the  
123 | Manasota Watershed Basin of the Ridge and Lower Gulf Coast Water  
124 | Management District shall become members of the governing board  
125 | of the Manasota Basin of the Southwest Florida Water Management  
126 | District. Notwithstanding other provisions in this section,  
127 | beginning on July 1, 2001, the membership of the Manasota Basin  
128 | Board shall be comprised of two ~~three~~ members from Manatee  
129 | County and two ~~three~~ members from Sarasota County. Matters  
130 | relating to tie votes shall be resolved pursuant to subsection  
131 | (6) by the ~~ex-officio~~ chair designated by the governing board to  
132 | vote in case of a tie vote.

133 |       (8) (a) At 11:59 p.m. on June 30, 1988, the area  
134 | transferred from the Southwest Florida Water Management District  
135 | to the St. Johns River Water Management District by change of  
136 | boundaries pursuant to chapter 76-243, Laws of Florida, shall  
137 | cease to be a subdistrict or basin of the St. Johns River Water  
138 | Management District known as the Oklawaha River Basin and said  
139 | Oklawaha River Basin shall cease to exist. However, any

140 recognition of an Oklawaha River Basin or an Oklawaha River  
141 Hydrologic Basin for regulatory purposes shall be unaffected.  
142 The area formerly known as the Oklawaha River Basin shall  
143 continue to be part of the St. Johns River Water Management  
144 District. ~~There shall be established by the governing board of~~  
145 ~~the St. Johns River Water Management District the Oklawaha River~~  
146 ~~Basin Advisory Council to receive public input and advise the~~  
147 ~~St. Johns River Water Management District's governing board on~~  
148 ~~water management issues affecting the Oklawaha River Basin. The~~  
149 ~~Oklawaha River Basin Advisory Council shall be appointed by~~  
150 ~~action of the St. Johns River Water Management District's~~  
151 ~~governing board and shall include one representative from each~~  
152 ~~county which is wholly or partly included in the Oklawaha River~~  
153 ~~Basin. The St. Johns River Water Management District's governing~~  
154 ~~board member currently serving pursuant to s. 373.073(2)(c)3.~~  
155 ~~shall serve as chair of the Oklawaha River Basin Advisory~~  
156 ~~Council. Members of the Oklawaha River Basin Advisory Council~~  
157 ~~shall receive no compensation for their services but are~~  
158 ~~entitled to be reimbursed for per diem and travel expenses as~~  
159 ~~provided in s. 112.061.~~

160 Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
161 373.073, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

162 373.073 Governing board.--

163 (1)

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

167           1. In the first year of the Governor's term of office, the  
168 Governor shall appoint four members to the governing board of  
169 the Southwest Florida Water Management District and appoint  
170 three members to the governing board of each other district.

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

175           3. In the third year of the Governor's term of office, the  
176 Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board of  
177 the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two members  
178 to the governing board of each other district.

179           4. In the fourth year of the Governor's term of office,  
180 the Governor shall appoint three members to the governing board  
181 of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and two  
182 members to the governing board of each other district.

183

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

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

196 373.079 Members of governing board; oath of office;  
 197 staff.--

198 (4) (a) The governing board of the district is authorized  
 199 to employ an executive director, ombudsman, and such engineers,  
 200 other professional persons, and other personnel and assistants  
 201 as it deems necessary and under such terms and conditions as it  
 202 may determine and to terminate such employment. The appointment  
 203 of an executive director by the governing board is subject to  
 204 approval by the Governor and must be initially confirmed by the  
 205 Florida Senate. The governing board may delegate all or part of  
 206 its authority under this paragraph to the executive director.  
 207 However, the governing board shall delegate to the executive  
 208 director all of its authority to take final action on permit  
 209 applications under part II or part IV or petitions for variances  
 210 or waivers of permitting requirements under part II or part IV,  
 211 except for denials of such actions as provided in s. 373.083(5).  
 212 The executive director may execute such delegated authority  
 213 through designated staff members. Such delegations shall not be  
 214 subject to the rulemaking requirements of chapter 120. The  
 215 executive director must be confirmed by the Senate upon  
 216 employment and must be confirmed or reconfirmed by the Senate  
 217 during the second regular session of the Legislature following a  
 218 gubernatorial election.

219 (b)1. The governing board of each water management  
 220 district shall employ an inspector general, who shall report  
 221 directly to the board. However, the governing boards of the



222 Suwannee River Water Management District and the Northwest  
 223 Florida Water Management District may jointly employ an  
 224 inspector general, or provide for inspector general services by  
 225 interagency agreement with a state agency or water management  
 226 district inspector general.

227 2. An inspector general must have the qualifications  
 228 prescribed and perform the applicable duties of state agency  
 229 inspectors general as provided in s. 20.055.

230 (7) The governing board shall meet at least once a month  
 231 and upon call of the chair. The governing board, a basin board,  
 232 a committee, or an advisory board may conduct meetings by means  
 233 of communications media technology in accordance with rules  
 234 adopted pursuant to s. 120.54.

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

237 373.083 General powers and duties of the governing  
 238 board.--In addition to other powers and duties allowed it by  
 239 law, the governing board is authorized to:

240 (5) Execute any of the powers, duties, and functions  
 241 vested in the governing board through a member or members  
 242 thereof, the executive director, or other district staff as  
 243 designated by the governing board. The governing board may  
 244 establish the scope and terms of any delegation. ~~The~~ However, if  
 245 ~~the governing board shall delegate to the executive director all~~  
 246 of its delegates the authority to take final action on permit  
 247 applications under part II or part IV, or petitions for  
 248 variances or waivers of permitting requirements under part II or  
 249 part IV, and the executive director may execute such delegated

250 authority through designated staff. Such delegations shall not  
 251 be subject to the rulemaking requirements of chapter 120.  
 252 However, the governing board shall provide a process for  
 253 referring any denial of such application or petition to the  
 254 governing board to take final action. Such process shall  
 255 expressly prohibit any member of a governing board from  
 256 intervening in any manner during the review of an application  
 257 prior to such application being referred to the governing board  
 258 for final action. The authority in this subsection is  
 259 supplemental to any other provision of this chapter granting  
 260 authority to the governing board to delegate specific powers,  
 261 duties, or functions.

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

265 373.118 General permits; delegation.--

266 ~~(4) To provide for greater efficiency, the governing board~~  
 267 ~~may delegate by rule its powers and duties pertaining to general~~  
 268 ~~permits to the executive director. The executive director may~~  
 269 ~~execute such delegated authority through designated staff.~~  
 270 ~~However, when delegating the authority to take final action on~~  
 271 ~~permit applications under part II or part IV or petitions for~~  
 272 ~~variances or waivers of permitting requirements under part II or~~  
 273 ~~part IV, the governing board shall provide a process for~~  
 274 ~~referring any denial of such application or petition to the~~  
 275 ~~governing board to take such final action.~~

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

278           373.323 Licensure of water well contractors; application,  
279 qualifications, and examinations; equipment identification.--

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

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

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

287           1. Evidence of the length of time the applicant has been  
288 engaged in the business of the construction, repair, or  
289 abandonment of water wells as a major activity, as attested to  
290 by a letter from three of the following persons:

291           a. A water well contractor.

292           b. A water well driller.

293           c. A water well parts and equipment vendor.

294           d. A water well inspectors employed by a governmental  
295 agency.

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

301           a. The name and address of the owner or owners of each  
302 well.

303           b. The location, primary use, and approximate depth and  
304 diameter of each well that the applicant has constructed,  
305 repaired, or abandoned.

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

308 (c) Has completed the application form and remitted a  
309 nonrefundable application fee.

310 Section 8. Subsections (6) and (7) are added to section  
311 373.236, Florida Statutes, to read:

312 373.236 Duration of permits; compliance reports.--

313 (6) (a) The Legislature finds that the need for alternative  
314 water supply development projects to meet anticipated public  
315 water supply demands of the state is so important that it is  
316 essential to encourage participation in and contribution to  
317 these projects by private-rural-land owners who  
318 characteristically have relatively modest near-term water  
319 demands but substantially increasing demands after the 20-year  
320 planning period in s. 373.0361. Therefore, where such landowners  
321 make extraordinary contributions of lands or construction  
322 funding to enable the expeditious implementation of such  
323 projects, water management districts and the department may  
324 grant permits for such projects for a period of up to 50 years  
325 to municipalities, counties, special districts, regional water  
326 supply authorities, multijurisdictional water supply entities,  
327 and publicly or privately owned utilities, with the exception of  
328 any publicly or privately owned utilities created for or by a  
329 private landowner after April 1, 2008, which have entered into  
330 an agreement with the private landowner for the purpose of more  
331 efficiently pursuing alternative public water supply development  
332 projects identified in a district's regional water supply plan

333 and meeting water demands of both the applicant and the  
334 landowner.

335 (b) A permit under paragraph (a) may be granted only for  
336 that period for which there is sufficient data to provide  
337 reasonable assurance that the conditions for permit issuance  
338 will be met. Such a permit shall require a compliance report by  
339 the permittee every 5 years during the term of the permit. The  
340 report shall contain sufficient data to maintain reasonable  
341 assurance that the conditions for permit issuance applicable at  
342 the time of district review of the compliance report are met.  
343 After review of this report, the governing board or the  
344 department may modify the permit to ensure that the use meets  
345 the conditions for issuance. This subsection does not limit the  
346 existing authority of the department or the governing board to  
347 modify or revoke a consumptive use permit.

348 (7) A permit approved for a renewable energy generating  
349 facility or the cultivation of agricultural products on lands  
350 consisting of 1,000 acres or more for use in the production  
351 renewable energy, as defined in s. 366.91(2)(d), shall be  
352 granted for a term of at least 25 years at the applicant's  
353 request based on the anticipated life of the facility if there  
354 is sufficient data to provide reasonable assurance that the  
355 conditions for permit issuance will be met for the duration of  
356 the permit; otherwise, a permit may be issued for a shorter  
357 duration that reflects the longest period for which such  
358 reasonable assurances are provided. Such a permit is subject to  
359 compliance reports under subsection (4).

360 Section 9. Subsection (4) of section 373.243, Florida

361 Statutes, is amended to read:

362 373.243 Revocation of permits.--The governing board or the  
363 department may revoke a permit as follows:

364 (4) For nonuse of the water supply allowed by the permit  
365 for a period of 2 years or more, the governing board or the  
366 department may revoke the permit permanently and in whole unless  
367 the user can prove that his or her nonuse was due to extreme  
368 hardship caused by factors beyond the user's control. For a  
369 permit issued pursuant to s. 373.236(7), the governing board or  
370 the department may revoke the permit only if the nonuse of the  
371 water supply allowed by the permit is for a period of 4 years or  
372 more.

373 Section 10. Paragraph (e) of subsection (5) of section  
374 373.536, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

375 373.536 District budget and hearing thereon.--

376 (5) TENTATIVE BUDGET CONTENTS AND SUBMISSION; REVIEW AND  
377 APPROVAL.--

378 (e) By September 5 of the year in which the budget is  
379 submitted, the House and Senate appropriations and appropriate  
380 substantive committee chairs may transmit to each district  
381 comments and objections to the proposed budgets. Each district  
382 governing board shall include a response to such comments and  
383 objections in the record of the governing board meeting where  
384 final adoption of the budget takes place, and the record of this  
385 meeting shall be transmitted to the Executive Office of the  
386 Governor, the department, and the chairs of the House and Senate  
387 appropriations committees.

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

390 373.584 Revenue bonds.--

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

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

400 (c) A water management district may not take any action  
 401 regarding the issuance of bonds in excess of the limitation of  
 402 paragraph (a) without prior approval of the Joint Legislative  
 403 Budget Commission pursuant to joint rules of the House of  
 404 Representative and the Senate.

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

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

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

412 373.59 Water Management Lands Trust Fund.--

413 (10) (a) Beginning July 1, 1999, not more than one-fourth  
 414 of the funds provided for in subsections (1) and (8) in any year  
 415 shall be reserved annually by a governing board, during the

416 development of its annual operating budget, for payments in lieu  
 417 of taxes for all actual ad valorem tax losses incurred as a  
 418 result of all governing board acquisitions for water management  
 419 district purposes ~~districts pursuant to ss. 259.101, 259.105,~~  
 420 ~~373.470, and this section during any year.~~ Reserved funds not  
 421 used for payments in lieu of taxes in any year shall revert to  
 422 the Water Management Lands Trust Fund to be used in accordance  
 423 with the provisions of this section.

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

425 1. To all counties that have a population of 150,000 or  
 426 fewer. Population levels shall be determined pursuant to s.  
 427 186.901 ~~11.031~~. The population estimates published April 1 and  
 428 used in the revenue-sharing formula pursuant to s. 186.901 shall  
 429 be used to determine eligibility under this subsection and shall  
 430 apply to payments made for the subsequent fiscal year.

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

433  
 434 For properties acquired after January 1, 2000, in the event that  
 435 such properties otherwise eligible for payment in lieu of taxes  
 436 under this subsection are leased or reserved and remain subject  
 437 to ad valorem taxes, payments in lieu of taxes shall commence or  
 438 recommence upon the expiration or termination of the lease or  
 439 reservation, ~~but in no event shall there be more than a total of~~  
 440 ~~10 annual payments in lieu of taxes for each tax loss.~~ If the  
 441 lease is terminated for only a portion of the lands at any time,  
 442 the ~~10~~ annual payments shall be made for that portion only  
 443 commencing the year after such termination, without limiting the



444 requirement that ~~10~~ annual payments shall be made on the  
 445 remaining portion or portions of the land as the lease on each  
 446 expires. For the purposes of this subsection, "local government"  
 447 includes municipalities and, the county school board, ~~mosquito~~  
 448 ~~control districts, and any other local government entity which~~  
 449 ~~levies ad valorem taxes.~~

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

454 (d) The payment amount shall be based on the average  
 455 amount of actual ad valorem taxes paid on the property for the 3  
 456 years preceding acquisition. Applications for payment in lieu of  
 457 taxes shall be made no later than May ~~January~~ 31 of the year for  
 458 which payment is sought ~~following acquisition.~~ No payment in  
 459 lieu of taxes shall be made for properties which were exempt  
 460 from ad valorem taxation for the year immediately preceding  
 461 acquisition.

462 (e) If property that was subject to ad valorem taxation  
 463 was acquired by a tax-exempt entity for ultimate conveyance to  
 464 the state under this chapter, payment in lieu of taxes shall be  
 465 made for such property based upon the average amount of ad  
 466 valorem taxes paid on the property for the 3 years prior to its  
 467 being removed from the tax rolls. The water management districts  
 468 shall certify to the Department of Revenue those properties that  
 469 may be eligible under this provision. Once eligibility has been  
 470 established, that governmental entity shall receive annual  
 471 payments for each tax loss until the qualifying governmental

472 entity exceeds the population threshold pursuant to paragraph  
 473 (b) ~~s. 259.032(12)(b)~~.

474 (f) Payment in lieu of taxes pursuant to this subsection  
 475 shall be made annually to qualifying counties and local  
 476 governments after certification by the Department of Revenue  
 477 that the amounts applied for are reasonably appropriate, based  
 478 on the amount of actual ad valorem taxes paid on the eligible  
 479 property, and after the water management districts have provided  
 480 supporting documents to the Chief Financial Officer and have  
 481 requested that payment be made in accordance with the  
 482 requirements of this section. With the assistance of the local  
 483 government requesting payment in lieu of taxes, the water  
 484 management district that acquired the land is responsible for  
 485 preparing and submitting application requests for payment to the  
 486 Department of Revenue for certification.

487 (g) If a water management district conveys to a county or  
 488 local government title to any land owned by the district, any  
 489 payments in lieu of taxes on the land made to the county or  
 490 local government shall be discontinued as of the date of the  
 491 conveyance.

492 Section 13. Section 373.5905, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 493 to read:

494 373.5905 Reinstatement ~~Reinstitution~~ of payments in lieu  
 495 of taxes; duration.--If a water management district has made a  
 496 payment in lieu of taxes to a governmental entity and  
 497 subsequently suspended such payment, beginning July 1, 2009, the  
 498 water management district shall reinstate ~~reinstitute~~  
 499 appropriate payments and continue the payments for as long as

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500 the county population remains below the population threshold  
501 pursuant to s. 373.59(10)(b). This section does not authorize or  
502 provide for payments in arrears in consecutive years until the  
503 governmental entity has received a total of 10 payments for each  
504 tax loss.

505 Section 14. Sections 373.465 and 373.466, Florida  
506 Statutes, are repealed.

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