

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Institute on Phosphate
 3 Research and Industrial Activities; renumbering and
 4 amending s. 378.101, F.S.; establishing the Florida
 5 Institute on Phosphate Research and Industrial Activities
 6 within the University of South Florida Polytechnic;
 7 creating the Phosphate Research Activities Board;
 8 providing for board duties, membership, and terms;
 9 providing for the administration of the institute;
 10 requiring the institute to conduct and contract for
 11 specified studies and to provide public access to certain
 12 information; authorizing the institute to conduct
 13 phosphate-related activities, secure funding, and enter
 14 into agreements with public, private, foreign, and
 15 domestic entities; amending s. 211.31, F.S.; conforming a
 16 cross-reference; providing for a type two transfer of the
 17 Florida Institute of Phosphate Research to the University
 18 of South Florida Polytechnic; repealing s. 378.102, F.S.,
 19 relating to the Florida Institute of Phosphate Research,
 20 to conform to changes made by the act; providing an
 21 effective date.

22
 23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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 25 Section 1. Section 378.101, Florida Statutes, is
 26 renumbered as section 1004.346, Florida Statutes, and amended to
 27 read:

28 (Substantial rewording of section. See

29 s. 378.101, F.S., for present text.)
 30 1004.346 Florida Institute on Phosphate Research and
 31 Industrial Activities.-
 32 (1) INSTITUTE CREATION.-The Florida Institute on Phosphate
 33 Research and Industrial Activities is established within the
 34 University of South Florida Polytechnic.
 35 (2) PHOSPHATE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES BOARD.-The Phosphate
 36 Research Activities Board shall ensure that funds appropriated
 37 to the university from the Phosphate Research Trust Fund are
 38 expended exclusively for the purpose of carrying out the
 39 phosphate-related activities specified in this section.
 40 (a) The board shall consist of seven members. The Governor
 41 shall appoint two persons representing the phosphate mining or
 42 processing industry and one member representing a major
 43 environmental conservation group in the state. The Board of
 44 Trustees of the University of South Florida Polytechnic shall
 45 appoint four persons with experience in research administration,
 46 finance, or commercialization activities.
 47 (b) Members of the board shall be appointed for terms up
 48 to 3-years and shall serve at the pleasure of the entity that
 49 appoints them. A board member may continue to serve until a
 50 successor is appointed, but not more than 180 days beyond the
 51 expiration of his or her term. A board member is eligible for
 52 reappointment to subsequent terms.
 53 (c) Board members shall annually elect a chair from among
 54 their membership.
 55 (d) Board members shall serve without compensation but are
 56 entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as

57 provided in s. 112.061.

58 (3) INSTITUTE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—An executive director,
 59 who shall be designated by and serve at the pleasure of the
 60 Campus Executive Officer of the University of South Florida
 61 Polytechnic or his or her designee, shall be responsible for the
 62 daily administration of the institute, including the expenditure
 63 of funds from all sources.

64 (4) INSTITUTE DUTIES AND AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—

65 (a) The institute shall:

66 1. Conduct or contract for studies on the environmental
 67 and health effects of phosphate mining and reclamation.

68 2. Conduct or contract for studies of reclamation
 69 alternatives and technologies in phosphate mining and processing
 70 and wetlands reclamation.

71 3. Conduct or contract for a comprehensive study of
 72 phosphatic clay and phosphogypsum disposal and utilization as a
 73 part of phosphate mining and processing.

74 4. Provide the public with access to the results of its
 75 activities and maintain a public library related to the
 76 institute's activities, which may contain special collections.

77 (b) The institute may:

78 1. Research and develop methods for better and more
 79 efficient practices for commercial and industrial activities,
 80 including, but not limited to, mitigating the health and
 81 environmental effects of such activities as well as developing
 82 and evaluating reclamation alternatives and technologies.

83 2. Secure funding from grants and other available sources
 84 for carrying out the activities authorized or required under

85 this section.

86 3. Enter into contracts with any firm, institution,
 87 corporation, or federal, state, local, or foreign governmental
 88 agency to carry out the activities authorized or required under
 89 this section.

90 4. Promote the application and commercialization of the
 91 institute's technologies, knowledge, and intellectual property
 92 in accordance with university policies and procedures.

93 5. Educate the public about the science related to topics
 94 and issues that are within the institute's scope of expertise.

95 6. Hold public hearings.

96 7. Establish public-private partnerships.

97 8. Provide consulting services.

98 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 211.31, Florida
 99 Statutes, is amended to read:

100 211.31 Levy of tax on severance of certain solid minerals;
 101 rate, basis, and distribution of tax.—

102 (4) The expenses of administering this part and ss.
 103 378.021, 378.031, and 1004.346 ~~378.101~~ shall be borne by the
 104 Land Reclamation Trust Fund, the Nonmandatory Land Reclamation
 105 Trust Fund, and the Phosphate Research Trust Fund.

106 Section 3. All powers, duties, functions, records,
 107 personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations,
 108 allocations, and other funds of the Florida Institute of
 109 Phosphate Research are transferred by a type two transfer
 110 pursuant to section 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, to the Florida
 111 Institute on Phosphate Research and Industrial Activities within
 112 the University of South Florida Polytechnic.

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113 | Section 4. Section 378.102, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

114 | Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.