

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to mining and extraction activities;  
3       amending s. 373.414, F.S.; providing that financial  
4       responsibility for mitigation for wetlands and other  
5       surface waters required by a permit for activities  
6       associated with the extraction of limestone are subject to  
7       approval by the Department of Environmental Protection as  
8       part of permit application review; amending s. 378.901,  
9       F.S.; authorizing mine operators proposing to mine or  
10      extract heavy minerals, limestone, or fuller's earth clay  
11      to apply for a life-of-the-mine permit; clarifying the  
12      authority of local governments to approve, approve with  
13      conditions, deny, or impose certain permit durations;  
14      providing an effective date.

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

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18       Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (19) of section  
19       373.414, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20       373.414 Additional criteria for activities in surface  
21       waters and wetlands.—

22       (19) (a) Financial responsibility for mitigation for  
23       wetlands and other surface waters required by a permit issued  
24       pursuant to this part for activities associated with the  
25       extraction of limestone and phosphate are subject to approval by  
26       the department as part of permit application review. Financial  
27       responsibility for permitted activities which will occur over a  
28       period of 3 years or less of mining operations must be provided

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29 | to the department prior to the commencement of mining operations  
30 | and shall be in an amount equal to 110 percent of the estimated  
31 | mitigation costs for wetlands and other surface waters affected  
32 | under the permit. For permitted activities which will occur over  
33 | a period of more than 3 years of mining operations, the initial  
34 | financial responsibility demonstration shall be in an amount  
35 | equal to 110 percent of the estimated mitigation costs for  
36 | wetlands and other surface waters affected in the first 3 years  
37 | of operation under the permit; and, for each year thereafter,  
38 | the financial responsibility demonstration shall be updated,  
39 | including to provide an amount equal to 110 percent of the  
40 | estimated mitigation costs for the next year of operations under  
41 | the permit for which financial responsibility has not already  
42 | been demonstrated and to release portions of the financial  
43 | responsibility mechanisms in accordance with applicable rules.

44 | Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 378.901, Florida  
45 | Statutes, is amended to read:

46 | 378.901 Life-of-the-mine permit.—

47 | (2) As an alternative to, and in lieu of, separate  
48 | applications for permits required by part IV of chapter 373 and  
49 | part IV of this chapter, each operator or existing operator who  
50 | proposes to mine or extract heavy minerals, limestone, or  
51 | fuller's earth clay may apply to the bureau for a life-of-the-  
52 | mine permit. Nothing in this subsection limits or restricts the  
53 | authority of a local government to approve, approve with  
54 | conditions, deny, or impose a permit duration different from the  
55 | duration of a permit issued pursuant to this section.

56 | Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.