

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to water storage and water quality  
 3           improvements; creating s. 373.4591, F.S.; requiring a  
 4           specified determination as a condition of an agreement  
 5           for water storage and water quality improvements on  
 6           private agricultural lands; providing a methodology  
 7           for such determination; providing for regulation of  
 8           such lands for the duration of the agreement and after  
 9           its expiration; providing an effective date.

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

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13           Section 1. Section 373.4591, Florida Statutes, is created  
 14           to read:

15           373.4591 Improvements on private agricultural lands.—The  
 16           Legislature encourages public-private partnerships to accomplish  
 17           water storage and water quality improvements on private  
 18           agricultural lands. When an agreement is entered into between a  
 19           water management district or the department and a private  
 20           landowner to establish such a partnership, a baseline condition  
 21           determining the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on  
 22           the property shall be established and documented in the  
 23           agreement before improvements are constructed. The determination  
 24           for the baseline condition shall be conducted using the methods  
 25           set forth in the rules adopted pursuant to s. 373.421. The  
 26           baseline condition documented in the agreement shall be  
 27           considered the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on

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28 | the property for the purpose of regulation under this chapter  
29 | for the duration of the agreement and after its expiration.

30 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.