

By Senator Bullard

39-01019-13

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to bonds for Everglades restoration;
3 amending s. 215.619, F.S.; providing for funding for
4 the City of Key West and the Florida Keys Area of
5 Critical State Concern protection program; providing
6 for financial assistance agreements between the
7 Department of Environmental Protection and the City of
8 Key West for the construction of stormwater management
9 and sewage facilities; 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. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
14 215.619, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

15 215.619 Bonds for Everglades restoration.—

16 (1) The issuance of Everglades restoration bonds to finance
17 or refinance the cost of the acquisition and improvement of
18 land, water areas, and related property interests and resources
19 for the purpose of implementing the Comprehensive Everglades
20 Restoration Plan under s. 373.470, the Lake Okeechobee Watershed
21 Protection Plan under s. 373.4595, the Caloosahatchee River
22 Watershed Protection Plan under s. 373.4595, the St. Lucie River
23 Watershed Protection Plan under s. 373.4595, and the Florida
24 Keys Area of Critical State Concern protection program under ss.
25 380.05 and 380.0552 in order to restore and conserve natural
26 systems through the implementation of water management projects,
27 including wastewater management projects identified in the Keys
28 Wastewater Plan, dated November 2007, and submitted to the
29 Florida House of Representatives on December 4, 2007, is

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30 authorized in accordance with s. 11(e), Art. VII of the State
31 Constitution.

32 (a) Everglades restoration bonds, except refunding bonds,
33 may be issued only in fiscal years 2002-2003 through 2019-2020
34 and may not be issued in an amount exceeding \$100 million per
35 fiscal year unless:

36 1. The Department of Environmental Protection has requested
37 additional amounts in order to achieve cost savings or
38 accelerate the purchase of land; or

39 2. The Legislature authorizes an additional amount of bonds
40 not to exceed \$200 million, and limited to \$50 million per
41 fiscal year, specifically for the purpose of funding the City of
42 Key West and the Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern
43 protection program. Proceeds from the bonds shall be managed by
44 the Department of Environmental Protection for the purpose of
45 entering into financial assistance agreements with the City of
46 Key West and local governments located in the Florida Keys Area
47 of Critical State Concern to finance or refinance the cost of
48 constructing stormwater management facilities and sewage
49 collection, treatment, and disposal facilities.

50 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.