

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; amending s. 381.0065, F.S.; delaying the effective date of the prohibition against the land application of septage from onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; directing the Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with various entities and individuals, to examine potential options for safe and appropriate disposal or reuse of septage and the contents of portable toilets, grease interceptors, and holding tanks and submit a report to the Governor and Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 381.0065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems; regulation.—

(6) LAND APPLICATION OF SEPTAGE PROHIBITED.—Effective January 1, 2017 ~~2016~~, the land application of septage from onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems is prohibited.

Section 2. (1) The Department of Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Department of Health, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department

27 of Economic Opportunity, the University of Florida Institute of
28 Food and Agricultural Sciences, local governments, and other
29 stakeholders, shall examine and report on the potential options
30 for safely and appropriately disposing of or reusing septage and
31 the contents of portable toilets, grease interceptors, and
32 holding tanks, including, but not limited to:

33 (a) An inventory of domestic wastewater utilities and
34 solid waste management facilities that are known to receive and
35 treat septage or the contents of portable toilets, grease
36 interceptors, and holding tanks.

37 (b) An inventory of permitted septage land application
38 sites.

39 (c) An analysis of the nutrient concentrations of septage.

40 (d) An analysis of the technical limitations for domestic
41 wastewater utilities and solid waste management facilities to
42 receive and treat septage or the contents of portable toilets,
43 grease interceptors, and holding tanks.

44 (e) An analysis of the sufficiency of chapter 64E-6,
45 Florida Administrative Code, in managing nutrient loading from
46 land application sites, with emphasis on high recharge areas of
47 the aquifer and other sensitive surface waters or ground waters.

48 (f) An analysis of compliance rates with chapter 64E-6,
49 Florida Administrative Code, and the sufficiency of operator
50 oversight to ensure compliance.

51 (g) An analysis of the sufficiency of penalties for
52 noncompliance.

53 (h) The transfer of regulatory authority over the land
54 application of septage or the contents of portable toilets,
55 grease interceptors, and holding tanks from the Department of
56 Health to the Department of Environmental Protection, including
57 the environmental benefits of applying the nutrient management
58 plan requirements, setbacks, site-monitoring requirements, and
59 provisions of chapter 62-640, Florida Administrative Code, to
60 the land application of septage.

61 (2) The Department of Environmental Protection shall
62 submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the
63 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
64 House of Representatives by October 1, 2015.

65 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.