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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to onsite sewage treatment and
3 disposal systems; amending s. 381.0065, F.S.; delaying
4 the effective date of the prohibition against the land
5 application of septage from onsite sewage treatment
6 and disposal systems; requiring the Department of
7 Environmental Protection to examine and report on
8 potential options for safely and appropriately
9 disposing or reusing septage; requiring the department
10 to submit a report of its findings and
11 recommendations; providing an effective date.

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

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

17 381.0065 Onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems;
18 regulation.—

19 (6) LAND APPLICATION OF SEPTAGE PROHIBITED.—

20 (a) Effective January 1, 2017 ~~2016~~, the land application of
21 septage from onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems is
22 prohibited.

23 (b) The Department of Environmental Protection, in
24 consultation with the Department of Health, the Department of
25 Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Economic
26 Opportunity, the University of Florida Institute of Food and
27 Agricultural Sciences, local governments, and other
28 stakeholders, shall examine and report on the potential options
29 for safely and appropriately disposing of or reusing septage and

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30 the contents of portable toilets, grease interceptors, and
31 holding tanks, including, but not limited to:

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

36 2. An inventory of permitted septage land application
37 sites.

38 3. An analysis of the nutrient concentrations of septage.

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

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

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

50 7. An analysis of the sufficiency of penalties for
51 noncompliance.

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

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59 the land application of septage.

60 (c) The Department of Environmental Protection shall submit
61 a report of its findings and recommendations, pursuant to
62 paragraph (b), to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and
63 the Speaker of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2015.

64 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.