COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE		ACTION
ADOPTED	_	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AN	MENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O	OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADO	OPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	_	(Y/N)
OTHER		

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

Representative Albritton offered the following:

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## Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (3) and (7) of section 193.461, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

193.461 Agricultural lands; classification and assessment; mandated eradication or quarantine program.—

(3) (a) No lands shall be classified as agricultural lands unless a return is filed on or before March 1 of each year. The property appraiser, before so classifying such lands, may require the taxpayer or the taxpayer's representative to furnish the property appraiser such information as may reasonably be required to establish that such lands were actually used for a bona fide agricultural purpose. Failure to make timely application by March 1 shall constitute a waiver for 1 year of

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19 the privilege herein granted for agricultural assessment. 20 However, an applicant who is qualified to receive an agricultural classification who fails to file an application by 21 22 March 1, must may file an application for the classification 23 with the property appraiser on or before the 25th day following 24 the mailing by the property appraiser of the notices required 25 under s. 194.011(1). Upon receipt of sufficient evidence, as determined by the property appraiser, demonstrating the 26 27 applicant was unable to apply for the classification in a timely 28 manner or otherwise demonstrating extenuating circumstances 29 judged by the property appraiser to warrant granting the 30 classification, the property appraiser may grant the 31 classification. If the applicant fails to produce sufficient 32 evidence demonstrating the applicant was unable to apply for the 33 classification in a timely manner or otherwise demonstrating 34 extenuating circumstances as judged by the property appraiser, the applicant and may file, pursuant to s. 194.011(3), a 35 petition with the value adjustment board requesting that the 36 37 classification be granted. The petition may be filed at any time during the taxable year on or before the 25th day following the 38 39 mailing of the notice by the property appraiser as provided in s. 194.011(1). Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 194.013, the 40 applicant must pay a nonrefundable fee of \$15 upon filing the 41 42 petition. Upon reviewing the petition, if the person is qualified to receive the classification and demonstrates 43 44 particular extenuating circumstances judged by the property 45 appraiser or the value adjustment board to warrant granting the 46 classification, the property appraiser or the value adjustment

482743 - HB 575 strike-all.docx

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board may grant the classification for the current year. The owner of land that was classified agricultural in the previous year and whose ownership or use has not changed may reapply on a short form as provided by the department. The lessee of property may make original application or reapply using the short form if the lease, or an affidavit executed by the owner, provides that the lessee is empowered to make application for the agricultural classification on behalf of the owner and a copy of the lease or affidavit accompanies the application. A county may, at the request of the property appraiser and by a majority vote of its governing body, waive the requirement that an annual application or statement be made for classification of property within the county after an initial application is made and the classification granted by the property appraiser. Such waiver may be revoked by a majority vote of the governing body of the county.

(7) (a) Lands classified for assessment purposes as agricultural lands which are taken out of production by <u>a</u> any state or federal eradication or quarantine program shall continue to be classified as agricultural lands for the duration of such program or successor programs. Lands under these programs which are converted to fallow, or otherwise nonincome-producing uses shall continue to be classified as agricultural lands and shall be assessed at a de minimis value of <u>up to no more than</u> \$50 per acre, on a single year assessment methodology; however, lands converted to other income-producing agricultural uses permissible under such programs shall be assessed pursuant to this section. Land under a mandated eradication or quarantine

482743 - HB 575 strike-all.docx

program which is diverted from an agricultural to a nonagricultural use shall be assessed under s. 193.011.

(b) Lands classified for assessment purposes as agricultural lands which participate in a dispersed water storage program pursuant to a contract with the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district which requires flooding of land shall continue to be classified as agricultural lands for the duration of the inclusion of the lands in such program or successor programs and shall be assessed as nonproductive agricultural lands. Land under a dispersed water storage program which is diverted to a nonagricultural use shall be assessed under s. 193.011.

Section 2. Subsection (32) of section 212.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.02 Definitions.—The following terms and phrases when used in this chapter have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

(32) "Agricultural production" means the production of plants and animals useful to humans, including the preparation, planting, cultivating, or harvesting of these products or any other practices necessary to accomplish production through the harvest phase, including storage of raw products on the farm.

Agricultural production and includes aquaculture, horticulture, floriculture, viticulture, forestry, dairy, livestock, poultry, bees, and any and all forms of farm products and farm production.

Section 3. Subsection (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection

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- (5) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.
  - (3) EXEMPTIONS; CERTAIN FARM EQUIPMENT.-
- (a) There shall be no tax on the sale, rental, lease, use, consumption, repair, or storage for use in this state of power farm equipment and irrigation equipment, including replacement parts and accessories for power farm equipment and irrigation equipment, which are used exclusively on a farm or in a forest in the agricultural production of crops or products as produced by those agricultural industries included in s. 570.02(1), or for fire prevention and suppression work with respect to such crops or products. Harvesting may not be construed to include processing activities. This exemption is not forfeited by moving farm equipment between farms or forests.
- (b) There shall be no tax on the sales price below \$20,000 of a trailer weighing 12,000 pounds or less and purchased by a farmer for exclusive use in agricultural production or to transport farm products from his or her farm to the place where the farmer transfers ownership of the farm product to another. This exemption is not forfeited by using a trailer to transport the farmer's farm equipment. The exemption provided under this paragraph does not apply to the lease or rental of a trailer.
- (c) However, this exemption shall The exemptions provided

482743 - HB 575 strike-all.docx

in paragraphs (a) and (b) may not be allowed unless the purchaser, renter, or lessee signs a certificate stating that the farm equipment is to be used exclusively on a farm or in a forest for agricultural production or for fire prevention and suppression, as required by this subsection. Possession by a seller, lessor, or other dealer of a written certification by the purchaser, renter, or lessee certifying the purchaser's, renter's, or lessee's entitlement to an exemption permitted by this subsection relieves the seller from the responsibility of collecting the tax on the nontaxable amounts, and the department shall look solely to the purchaser for recovery of such tax if it determines that the purchaser was not entitled to the exemption.

- (5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.-
- (a) Items in agricultural use and certain nets.—There are exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter nets designed and used exclusively by commercial fisheries; disinfectants, fertilizers, insecticides, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, and weed killers used for application on crops or groves, including commercial nurseries and home vegetable gardens, used in dairy barns or on poultry farms for the purpose of protecting poultry or livestock, or used directly on poultry or livestock; portable containers or movable receptacles in which portable containers are placed, used for processing farm products; field and garden seeds, including flower seeds; nursery stock, seedlings, cuttings, or other propagative material purchased for growing stock; seeds, seedlings, cuttings, and plants used to produce food for human consumption; cloth, plastic, and other

482743 - HB 575 strike-all.docx

similar materials used for shade, mulch, or protection from frost or insects on a farm; stakes used by a farmer to support plants during agricultural production; generators used on poultry farms; and liquefied petroleum gas or other fuel used to heat a structure in which started pullets or broilers are raised; however, such exemption shall not be allowed unless the purchaser or lessee signs a certificate stating that the item to be exempted is for the exclusive use designated herein. Also exempt are cellophane wrappers, glue for tin and glass (apiarists), mailing cases for honey, shipping cases, window cartons, and baling wire and twine used for baling hay, when used by a farmer to contain, produce, or process an agricultural commodity.

Section 4. Section 373.4591, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

373.4591 Improvements on private agricultural lands.—The Legislature encourages public-private partnerships to accomplish water storage and water quality improvements on private agricultural lands. When an agreement is entered into between a water management district or the department and a private landowner to establish such a partnership, a baseline condition determining the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on the property shall be established and documented in the agreement before improvements are constructed. When the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and a landowner agree to a plan to implement best management practices pursuant to s. 403.067(7)(c), a baseline condition determining the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on the property may be

482743 - HB 575 strike-all.docx

established at the option and expense of the landowner and documented in the best management practice implementation agreement before improvements are constructed. The determination for the baseline condition shall be conducted using the methods set forth in the rules adopted pursuant to s. 373.421. The baseline condition documented in the agreement shall be considered the extent of wetlands and other surface waters on the property for the purpose of regulation under this chapter for the duration of the agreement and after its expiration.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.

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#### TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

## A bill to be entitled

An act relating to agriculture; amending s. 193.461, F.S.; authorizing a property appraiser to grant an agricultural classification after the March 1 application deadline upon a showing of extenuating circumstances; providing that participation in certain dispersed water storage programs does not change a land's agricultural classification for assessment purposes; amending s. 212.02, F.S.; redefining the

482743 - HB 575 strike-all.docx

# COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT Bill No. HB 575 (2014)

## Amendment No. 1

term "agricultural production" to include storage of
raw products on the farm; amending s. 212.08, F.S.;
expanding the exemption for certain farm equipment
from the sales and use tax imposed under ch. 212,
F.S., to include repairs of such equipment and certain
trailers; expanding the exemption for items in
agricultural use from the sale and use tax imposed
under ch. 212, F.S., to include stakes used to support
plants during agricultural production; amending s.
373.4591, F.S.; authorizing agricultural landowners to
establish baseline wetland and surface water
conditions before implementing certain best management
practice implementation agreements; providing an
effective date.

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