

By Senator Clemens

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20161544\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to weather impacts; creating s.  
3           252.3655, F.S.; creating an interagency workgroup to  
4           share information, coordinate ongoing efforts, and  
5           collaborate on initiatives relating to weather events;  
6           defining the term "weather events"; providing for  
7           specified agencies to select liaisons to the  
8           workgroup; designating the director of the Division of  
9           Emergency Management or the director's designee as the  
10          liaison to and coordinator of the workgroup; requiring  
11          the workgroup to prepare a specified annual report;  
12          requiring the workgroup to submit the report to the  
13          Governor and the Legislature; requiring the director  
14          of the division or the director's designee to post the  
15          report on the division's website; requiring each  
16          agency liaison to post the report on the respective  
17          agency's website; providing an effective date.

18  
19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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21           Section 1. Section 252.3655, Florida Statutes, is created  
22 to read:

23           252.3655 Weather interagency workgroup.—

24           (1) (a) An interagency workgroup is created for the purpose  
25 of sharing information on the current and potential impacts of  
26 weather events throughout the state, coordinating the ongoing  
27 efforts of state agencies in addressing the impacts of weather  
28 events, and collaborating on statewide initiatives to address  
29 the impacts of weather events. As used in this section, the term  
30 "weather events" includes, but is not limited to, extreme heat,  
31 drought, wildfire, sea-level change, high tides, storm surge,  
32 saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff, flash floods, inland

27-01368A-16

20161544\_\_

33 flooding, and coastal flooding.

34 (b) The head of each executive department, the executive  
35 director of each water management district, the Florida Public  
36 Service Commission, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
37 Commission, the Department of Military Affairs, the Office of  
38 Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the  
39 Office of Financial Regulation of the Financial Services  
40 Commission, and the Board of Governors of the State University  
41 System shall select from within such agency a person to be  
42 designated as the agency liaison to the workgroup. The director  
43 of the Division of Emergency Management or the director's  
44 designee shall serve as the liaison to and coordinator of the  
45 workgroup. The workgroup may meet in person or by teleconference  
46 as often as the workgroup deems necessary to share information,  
47 leverage resources, coordinate ongoing efforts, and prepare an  
48 annual report pursuant to this section.

49 (2) (a) The workgroup is responsible for preparing an annual  
50 report that shall, at a minimum:

51 1. Assess the relevance, level, and significance of current  
52 agency efforts to address the impacts of weather events.

53 2. Create a uniform vulnerability assessment based on  
54 current scientific literature to identify and evaluate potential  
55 weather impacts that the agencies have not addressed.

56 3. Strategize and prioritize ongoing efforts to address the  
57 impacts of weather events.

58 (b) In preparing the report, the workgroup is encouraged to  
59 seek out state and national academic resources.

60 (3) (a) By January 1, 2017, and each year thereafter, the  
61 workgroup shall issue a report on the current initiatives of the

27-01368A-16

20161544\_\_

62 workgroup in coordinating and developing efforts to address the  
63 current and potential impacts of weather events. The report  
64 shall be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate,  
65 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

66 (b) The director of the Division of Emergency Management or  
67 the director's designee is responsible for posting the  
68 workgroup's annual report on the division's website.

69 (c) Each agency liaison is responsible for posting the  
70 workgroup's annual report on the respective agency's website.

71 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.