

By the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation;  
and Senator Hays

592-01416A-16

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the organizational structure of the  
3 Department of Environmental Protection; amending s.  
4 20.255, F.S.; requiring the secretary of the  
5 Department of Environmental Protection to appoint a  
6 general counsel; authorizing the secretary to  
7 establish divisions as necessary to accomplish the  
8 mission and goals of the department; authorizing  
9 offices to be established as necessary to promote the  
10 efficient and effective operation of the department;  
11 deleting the required establishment of certain offices  
12 and divisions; providing an effective date.

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

15  
16 Section 1. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 20.255,  
17 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

18 20.255 Department of Environmental Protection.—There is  
19 created a Department of Environmental Protection.

20 (2) (a) The secretary shall appoint ~~There shall be three~~  
21 ~~deputy secretaries who are to be appointed by and shall serve at~~  
22 ~~the pleasure of the secretary. The secretary may assign any~~  
23 ~~deputy secretary the responsibility to supervise, coordinate,~~  
24 ~~and formulate policy for any division, office, or district.~~

25 (b) The secretary shall appoint a general counsel who is  
26 directly responsible to and serves at the pleasure of the  
27 secretary. The general counsel is responsible for all legal  
28 matters of the department.

29 (c) The secretary may establish divisions as he or she

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30 deems necessary to accomplish the mission and goals of the  
31 department, including, but not limited to, the following areas  
32 of program responsibility: water resources management,  
33 regulatory programs, and lands and recreation. The divisions  
34 shall be headed by directors, each of whom is to be appointed by  
35 and serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The Division of  
36 State Lands is established within the department, the director  
37 of which is to be appointed by the secretary, subject to  
38 confirmation by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Board of  
39 Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.

40 (d) Offices may be established as deemed necessary to  
41 promote the efficient and effective operation of the department.  
42 The secretary may combine, separate, or delete offices as  
43 necessary in consultation with the Executive Office of the  
44 Governor. The following special offices shall be are established  
45 and headed by managers, each of whom is to be appointed by and  
46 serve at the pleasure of the secretary:

- 47 1. Office of Chief of Staff;
- 48 2. Office of General Counsel;
- 49 3. Office of Inspector General;
- 50 4. Office of External Affairs;
- 51 5. Office of Legislative Affairs;
- 52 6. Office of Intergovernmental Programs; and
- 53 7. Office of Greenways and Trails.
- 54 8. Office of Emergency Response.

55 (e) (b) There shall be six administrative districts involved  
56 in regulatory matters, such as of waste management, water  
57 resource management, wetlands, and air resources. The districts,  
58 which shall be headed by managers, each of whom is to be

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59 appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the secretary.

60 ~~Divisions of the department may have one assistant or two deputy~~  
61 ~~division directors, as required to facilitate effective~~  
62 ~~operation.~~

63  
64 The managers of all divisions, and offices, and districts  
65 ~~specifically named in this section and the directors of the six~~  
66 ~~administrative districts~~ are exempt from part II of chapter 110  
67 and are included in the Senior Management Service in accordance  
68 with s. 110.205(2)(j).

69 (3) ~~The following divisions of the Department of~~  
70 ~~Environmental Protection are established:~~

71 ~~(a) Division of Administrative Services.~~

72 ~~(b) Division of Air Resource Management.~~

73 ~~(c) Division of Water Resource Management.~~

74 ~~(d) Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration.~~

75 ~~(e) Division of Waste Management.~~

76 ~~(f) Division of Recreation and Parks.~~

77 ~~(g) Division of State Lands, the director of which is to be~~  
78 ~~appointed by the secretary of the department, subject to~~  
79 ~~confirmation by the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Board of~~  
80 ~~Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund. In order to~~  
81 ensure statewide and intradepartmental consistency, the  
82 department's divisions shall direct the district offices and  
83 bureaus on matters of interpretation and applicability of the  
84 department's rules and programs.

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

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