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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

.

House

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Floor: 1/RS/2R

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03/10/2016 11:31 AM

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Senator Negron moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. As reflected in the 2016-2017 General
Appropriations Act, HB 5001, and this act, the Legislature
recognizes the critical importance of restoring and preserving
our water and natural resources and is committed to long-term
funding for the Everglades and Florida's springs.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 375.041, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:



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12 375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

13 (3) Funds distributed into the Land Acquisition Trust Fund
14 pursuant to s. 201.15 shall be applied:

15 (a) First, to pay debt service or to fund debt service
16 reserve funds, rebate obligations, or other amounts payable with
17 respect to Florida Forever bonds issued under s. 215.618; and
18 pay debt service, provide reserves, and pay rebate obligations
19 and other amounts due with respect to Everglades restoration
20 bonds issued under s. 215.619;

21 (b) Beginning with the 2017-2018 fiscal year, of the funds
22 remaining after the payments required under paragraph (a), but
23 before funds may be appropriated, pledged, or dedicated for
24 other uses:

25 1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million
26 shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that
27 implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set
28 forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning
29 Project subject to Congressional authorization; the Long-Term
30 Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades
31 and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595.
32 From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal
33 year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida
34 Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in
35 s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed
36 under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of
37 the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated
38 each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the
39 planning, design, engineering, and construction of the
40 Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s.



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41 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project
42 subject to Congressional authorization. The Department of
43 Environmental Protection and the South Florida Water Management
44 District shall give preference to those Everglades restoration
45 projects that reduce harmful discharges of water from Lake
46 Okeechobee to the St. Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a
47 timely manner. For the purpose of performing the calculation
48 provided in this subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid
49 pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2017,
50 for the purposes set forth under paragraph (b) shall be added to
51 the amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph
52 (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be
53 reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to
54 paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the
55 purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

56 2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million
57 shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration,
58 protection, and management projects. For the purpose of
59 performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the
60 amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds
61 issued after July 1, 2017, for the purposes set forth under
62 paragraph (b) shall be added to the amount remaining after the
63 payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the
64 distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal
65 to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds
66 issued after July 1, 2017, for the purposes set forth under this
67 subparagraph.

68 3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually
69 each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St.



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70 Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to
71 the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be
72 reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to
73 paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the
74 purposes set forth in this subparagraph Then, to pay the debt
75 ~~service on bonds issued before February 1, 2009, by the South~~
76 ~~Florida Water Management District and the St. Johns River Water~~
77 ~~Management District, which are secured by revenues provided~~
78 ~~pursuant to former s. 373.59, Florida Statutes 2014, or which~~
79 ~~are necessary to fund debt service reserve funds, rebate~~
80 ~~obligations, or other amounts payable with respect to such~~
81 ~~bonds. This paragraph expires July 1, 2016; and~~

82 (c) Then, to distribute \$32 million each fiscal year to the
83 South Florida Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan
84 as defined in s. 373.4592(2). This paragraph expires July 1,
85 2017 2024.

86 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.

87
88 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

89 And the title is amended as follows:

90 Delete everything before the enacting clause
91 and insert:

92 A bill to be entitled
93 An act relating to implementation of the water and
94 land conservation constitutional amendment; providing
95 legislative intent; amending s. 375.041, F.S.;;
96 requiring specified amounts of funds within the Land
97 Acquisition Trust Fund, beginning at a specified time,
98 to be appropriated for certain projects; providing a



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99 preference in the use of funds distributed for
100 Everglades restoration projects for projects that
101 reduce harmful discharges to the St. Lucie estuary and
102 the Caloosahatchee estuary; requiring such
103 appropriations to be reduced by an amount equal to the
104 debt service paid on bonds issued for specified
105 purposes; deleting an obsolete provision; providing an
106 effective date.