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LEGISLATIVE ACTION .

Senate Comm: RCS 02/22/2018 House

The Committee on Appropriations (Grimsley) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment to Amendment (350294) (with title amendment)

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Between lines 26 and 27

insert:

Section 2. Section 316.565, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.565 Emergency transportation, <u>agricultural products</u> perishable food; establishment of weight loads, etc.-

(1) The Governor may declare an emergency to exist when

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11 there is a breakdown in the normal public transportation 12 facilities necessary in moving agricultural products, as defined 13 in s. 604.60, perishable food crops grown in the state. The 14 Department of Transportation is authorized during such emergency to establish such weight loads for hauling over the highways 15 16 from the fields or packinghouses to the nearest available public 17 transportation facility as circumstances demand. The Department 18 of Transportation may issue, and any law enforcement officer 19 authorized to enforce the traffic laws of this state must 20 accept, electronic verification of permits during such an 21 emergency. A permit issued pursuant to this section is valid for 22 up to 60 days; however, the validity of the permit may not 23 exceed the period of the declared state of emergency or any 24 extension thereof. The Department of Transportation shall 25 designate special highway routes, excluding the interstate 26 highway system, to facilitate the trucking and render any other 27 assistance needed to expedite moving the agricultural products 28 perishables.

29 (2) It is the intent of the Legislature in this chapter to 30 supersede any existing laws when necessary to protect and save 31 any agricultural products perishable food crops grown in the 32 state and give authority for agencies to provide necessary 33 temporary assistance requested during any such emergency. The department shall consult with the Department of Agriculture and 34 35 Consumer Services and stakeholders in the agricultural industry 36 in implementing this section.

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40 Delete line 2726

41 and insert:

42 structures used in citrus production; amending s. 43 316.565, F.S.; revising the Governor's authority, to include agricultural products instead of only 44 perishable food, in declaring an emergency relating to 45 46 the transport of such products when there is a 47 breakdown in the normal public transportation 48 facilities necessary to move such products; 49 authorizing the Department of Transportation to issue, and specifying that certain law enforcement officers 50 51 must accept, electronic verification of permits during 52 a declared state of emergency; providing that such 53 permits are valid for up to a specified period, but no 54 longer than the duration of the declared state of 55 emergency or any extension thereof; requiring the 56 Department of Transportation to consult with the 57 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and 58 stakeholders in the agricultural industry in 59 implementing emergency transportation assistance for 60 agricultural products; amending s.

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