

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Florida Red Tide Mitigation and
 3 Technology Development Initiative; creating s.
 4 379.2273, F.S.; providing legislative intent;
 5 establishing the Florida Red Tide Mitigation and
 6 Technology Development Initiative; providing the
 7 purpose and goal of the initiative; providing for
 8 funding; requiring the initiative to submit an annual
 9 report by a specified date to the Governor, the
 10 Legislature, the Secretary of Environmental
 11 Protection, and the executive director of the Fish and
 12 Wildlife Conservation Commission; establishing the
 13 Initiative Technology Advisory Council; providing for
 14 council purpose, meetings, membership, terms of
 15 office, and compensation; providing for expiration of
 16 the initiative; providing an effective date.

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

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 20 Section 1. Section 379.2273, Florida Statutes, is created
 21 to read:

22 379.2273 Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology
 23 Development Initiative; Initiative Technology Advisory Council.-

24 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to establish an
 25 independent and coordinated effort among public and private

26 research entities to develop prevention, control, and mitigation
27 technologies and approaches to address the impacts of red tide
28 on coastal environments and communities in this state.

29 (2) The Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology
30 Development Initiative is established as a partnership between
31 the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute within the commission
32 and Mote Marine Laboratory.

33 (a) The purpose of the initiative is to lead the
34 development of innovative technologies and approaches that are
35 critically needed to address the control and mitigation of red
36 tide and its impacts by building upon the ongoing cooperative
37 red tide research and monitoring program between the Fish and
38 Wildlife Research Institute and Mote Marine Laboratory.

39 (b) The goal of the initiative is to develop, test, and
40 implement innovative, effective, and environmentally sustainable
41 technologies and approaches for controlling and mitigating the
42 impacts of red tide.

43 (c) Funds specifically appropriated by the Legislature for
44 red tide mitigation technology development projects shall be
45 awarded by the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute to Mote
46 Marine Laboratory to achieve the goals of the initiative.

47 1. Mote Marine Laboratory may, with the concurrence of the
48 Fish and Wildlife Research Institute, use a portion of the
49 awarded funds to facilitate additional engagement with other
50 pertinent marine science and technology development

51 organizations in this state and around the world to pursue
52 applied research and technology for the control and mitigation
53 of the impacts of red tide.

54 2. Mote Marine Laboratory may not use more than 5 percent
55 of its awarded funds for direct annual initiative administration
56 coordination costs.

57 3. The initiative shall leverage state-appropriated funds
58 with additional funds from private and federal sources.

59 (d) Beginning January 15, 2021, and each January 15
60 thereafter until its expiration, the initiative shall submit a
61 report that contains an overview of its accomplishments to date
62 and priorities for subsequent years to the Governor, the
63 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
64 Representatives, the Secretary of Environmental Protection, and
65 the executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
66 Commission.

67 (3) There is established within the initiative the
68 Initiative Technology Advisory Council, an advisory council as
69 defined in s. 20.03(7), to review and provide recommendations to
70 the initiative regarding initiative strategies, priorities, and
71 financial expenditures for developing, testing, and implementing
72 innovative, effective, and environmentally sustainable
73 technologies and approaches for controlling and mitigating the
74 impacts of red tide.

75 (a) The council shall be chaired by the president and

76 chief executive officer of Mote Marine Laboratory and shall
77 consist of the following:

78 1. One member from a private commercial enterprise,
79 appointed by the Governor.

80 2. One member from a public or private university in this
81 state, appointed by the President of the Senate.

82 3. One member from a nonuniversity public or private
83 marine environmental organization, appointed by the Speaker of
84 the House of Representatives.

85 4. One member from the Department of Environmental
86 Protection who has expertise in red tide, appointed by the
87 Secretary of Environmental Protection.

88 5. One member from the Fish and Wildlife Research
89 Institute who has expertise in red tide, appointed by the
90 executive director of the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute.

91 6. One member from the Florida Department of Agriculture
92 and Consumer Services who has expertise in water quality,
93 appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture.

94 (b) Council members shall serve staggered 2-year terms and
95 may be reappointed.

96 (c) Council members shall serve without compensation, and
97 each organization represented shall cover all expenses of its
98 respective representative.

99 (d) The council shall meet at least twice annually.

100 (4) This section expires June 30, 2025.

101 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019. |