

HB 1199

2019

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to water resources; amending s.
3 403.928, F.S.; declaring legislative intent; revising
4 requirements for the Office of Economic and
5 Demographic Research's annual assessment of this
6 state's water resources and conservation lands;
7 requiring the office to consult with the Department of
8 Environmental Protection; defining the term "agency";
9 requiring the assessment to be submitted to the
10 Legislature by a specified date; making technical
11 changes; providing an effective date.

12
13 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that water constitutes a
14 public resource that benefits the entire state, and

15 WHEREAS, water is an essential element to Florida's current
16 and future growth, sustainability, and environmental health, and

17 WHEREAS, a water and lands assessment that is based on
18 needs, and not simply expenditures, is vital to successfully
19 plan for Florida's current and future population growth and
20 infrastructure needs, NOW, THEREFORE,

21
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23
24 Section 1. Section 403.928, Florida Statutes, is amended
25 to read:

26 403.928 Assessment of water resources and conservation
 27 lands.—The Office of Economic and Demographic Research, in
 28 consultation with the department, shall conduct an annual
 29 assessment of Florida's water resources and conservation lands.

30 (1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—The Legislature intends that the
 31 Office of Economic and Demographic Research interpret this
 32 section, to the maximum extent practicable, in a manner that
 33 provides the Legislature with the most comprehensive annual
 34 assessment of this state's water infrastructure funding needs,
 35 including, but not limited to, residential, commercial,
 36 environmental, agricultural, and industrial. It is further the
 37 intent of the Legislature that the office coordinate, to the
 38 greatest extent possible, with the Department of Environmental
 39 Protection to produce the annual assessment.

40 (2)~~(1)~~ WATER RESOURCES.—The assessment must include:

41 (a) A quantitative, needs-based evaluation of all of the
 42 following:

43 1. Water supply infrastructure, including, but not limited
 44 to, water supply development projects, water resource
 45 development projects, and water conservation.

46 2. Water quality protection and restoration, including,
 47 but not limited to, septic system conversion, basin management
 48 action plans under s. 403.067(7)(a), and surface water
 49 improvement and management plans under s. 373.453.

50 3. Wastewater infrastructure, including septic systems.

51 4. Stormwater infrastructure.
 52 5. Flood control infrastructure.
 53 6. Environmental restoration.
 54 **(b)-(a)** An evaluation of ~~Historical and~~ current
 55 expenditures ~~and projections of future expenditures~~ by federal,
 56 state, regional, and local governments and public and private
 57 utilities which are based upon historical trends and ongoing
 58 ~~projects or initiatives~~ associated with the categories listed in
 59 paragraph (a).÷
 60 ~~1. Water supply and demand; and~~
 61 ~~2. Water quality protection and restoration.~~
 62 **(c)-(b)** An analysis and estimates of future expenditures by
 63 federal, state, regional, and local governments and public and
 64 private utilities necessary to comply with federal and state
 65 laws and regulations governing paragraphs (a) and (b)
 66 ~~subparagraphs (a)1. and 2.~~ The analysis and estimates must
 67 address future needs ~~expenditures~~ by ~~federal,~~ state, regional,
 68 and local governments and all public and private utilities
 69 necessary to achieve the requirements in s. 7, Art. II of the
 70 State Constitution, and the Legislature's intent that sufficient
 71 water be available for all existing and future reasonable-
 72 beneficial uses and the natural systems, and that adverse
 73 effects of competition for water supplies be avoided. The
 74 assessment must include a compilation of projected water supply
 75 and demand data developed by each water management district

76 | pursuant to ss. 373.036 and 373.709, with notations regarding
77 | any significant differences between the methods used by the
78 | districts to calculate the data.

79 | (d)~~(e)~~ Forecasts of federal, state, regional, and local
80 | government revenues dedicated in current law for the purposes
81 | specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) ~~subparagraphs (a)1. and 2.~~
82 | or that have been historically allocated for these purposes, as
83 | well as public and private utility revenues.

84 | (e)~~(d)~~ An identification of gaps between projected
85 | revenues and projected and estimated needs ~~expenditures~~.

86 | (f) A comprehensive list of funding options to fulfill any
87 | funding gaps identified in paragraph (e). In creating the list,
88 | the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall evaluate,
89 | at a minimum, existing revenue sources, potential additional
90 | revenue sources, and funding mechanisms used by other states for
91 | water infrastructure and environmental restoration.

92 | (3)~~(2)~~ CONSERVATION LANDS.—The assessment must include all
93 | of the following:

94 | (a) Historical and current expenditures and projections of
95 | future expenditures by federal, state, regional, and local
96 | governments based upon historical trends and ongoing projects or
97 | initiatives associated with real property interests eligible for
98 | funding under s. 259.105.

99 | (b) An analysis and estimates of future expenditures by
100 | federal, state, regional, and local governments necessary to

101 purchase lands identified in plans set forth by state agencies
 102 or water management districts.

103 (c) An analysis of the ad valorem tax impacts, by county,
 104 resulting from public ownership of conservation lands.

105 (d) Forecasts of federal, state, regional, and local
 106 government revenues dedicated in current law to maintain
 107 conservation lands and the gap between projected expenditures
 108 and revenues.

109 (e) The total percentage of Florida real property that is
 110 publicly owned for conservation purposes.

111 (f) A comparison of the cost of acquiring and maintaining
 112 conservation lands under fee simple or less than fee simple
 113 ownership.

114 (4)~~(3)~~ SCOPE.—The assessment must ~~shall~~ include:

115 (a) Analyses on a statewide, regional, or geographic
 116 basis, as appropriate, and must ~~shall~~ identify analytical
 117 challenges in assessing information across the different regions
 118 of this ~~the~~ state.

119 (b)~~(4)~~ An identification of ~~The assessment must identify~~
 120 any overlap in the expenditures or needs for water resources and
 121 conservation lands.

122 (5) AGENCY ASSISTANCE.—

123 (a) Agencies ~~The water management districts, the~~
 124 ~~Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of~~
 125 ~~Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Fish and Wildlife~~

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126 ~~Conservation Commission, counties, municipalities, and special~~
127 ~~districts~~ shall provide assistance to the Office of Economic and
128 Demographic Research related to their respective areas of
129 expertise.

130 (b)(6) An agency must provide the Office of Economic and
131 Demographic Research with ~~must be given access to~~ any data held
132 by the ~~an~~ agency which ~~as defined in s. 112.312~~ if the office of
133 ~~Economic and Demographic Research~~ considers ~~the~~ data necessary
134 to complete the assessment, including any confidential data.

135 (c) As used in this subsection, the term "agency" has the
136 same meaning as in s. 112.312.

137 (6)(7) SUBMISSION.—The assessment must ~~shall~~ be submitted
138 to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
139 Representatives by January 1, 2020 ~~2017~~, and by January 1 of
140 each year thereafter.

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