



507444

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/25/2020	.	
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and  
General Government (Montford) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. This act may be referred to as "The Apalachicola  
Environmental Stewardship Act."

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
259.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

259.105 The Florida Forever Act.—

(3) Less the costs of issuing and the costs of funding



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11 reserve accounts and other costs associated with bonds, the  
12 proceeds of cash payments or bonds issued pursuant to this  
13 section shall be deposited into the Florida Forever Trust Fund  
14 created by s. 259.1051. The proceeds shall be distributed by the  
15 Department of Environmental Protection in the following manner:

16 (b) Thirty-five percent to the Department of Environmental  
17 Protection for the acquisition of lands and capital project  
18 expenditures described in this section. Of the proceeds  
19 distributed pursuant to this paragraph, it is the intent of the  
20 Legislature that an increased priority be given to those  
21 acquisitions which achieve a combination of conservation goals,  
22 including protecting Florida's water resources and natural  
23 groundwater recharge. At a minimum, 3 percent, and no more than  
24 10 percent, of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph  
25 shall be spent on capital project expenditures identified during  
26 the time of acquisition which meet land management planning  
27 activities necessary for public access. Beginning in the 2017-  
28 2018 fiscal year and continuing through the 2026-2027 fiscal  
29 year, at least \$5 million of the funds allocated pursuant to  
30 this paragraph shall be spent on land acquisition within the  
31 Florida Keys Area of Critical State Concern as authorized  
32 pursuant to s. 259.045. Beginning in the 2020-2021 fiscal year  
33 and continuing through the 2024-2025 fiscal year, at least \$5  
34 million of the funds allocated pursuant to this paragraph shall  
35 be spent on projects that improve surface water and groundwater  
36 quality within the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State  
37 Concern as designated under s. 380.0555, including the  
38 construction and replacement of stormwater management facilities  
39 and central sewage collection facilities, installation of onsite



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40 sewage treatment and disposal systems, direct and indirect  
41 potable reuse, and other water quality and water supply  
42 projects.

43 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.

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45 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

46 And the title is amended as follows:

47 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
48 and insert:

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to the Apalachicola Environmental  
51 Stewardship Act; providing a short title; amending s.  
52 259.105, F.S.; requiring specified funds from the  
53 Florida Forever Fund to be spent on projects within  
54 the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern  
55 for specified purposes; providing an effective date.