

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Land Acquisition Trust Fund;  
 3           amending s. 375.041, F.S.; requiring a specified  
 4           annual appropriation to the Florida Forever Trust  
 5           Fund; deleting an obsolete provision; providing an  
 6           effective date.

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

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 10           Section 1. Upon the expiration and reversion of the  
 11           amendments made to section 375.041, Florida Statutes, pursuant  
 12           to section 77 of chapter 2020-114, Laws of Florida, subsection  
 13           (3) of section 375.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14           375.041 Land Acquisition Trust Fund.—

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

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

23           (b) Of the funds remaining after the payments required  
 24           under paragraph (a), but before funds may be appropriated,  
 25           pledged, or dedicated for other uses:

26 | 1. A minimum of the lesser of 25 percent or \$200 million  
27 | shall be appropriated annually for Everglades projects that  
28 | implement the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set  
29 | forth in s. 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning  
30 | Project subject to Congressional authorization; the Long-Term  
31 | Plan as defined in s. 373.4592(2); and the Northern Everglades  
32 | and Estuaries Protection Program as set forth in s. 373.4595.  
33 | From these funds, \$32 million shall be distributed each fiscal  
34 | year through the 2023-2024 fiscal year to the South Florida  
35 | Water Management District for the Long-Term Plan as defined in  
36 | s. 373.4592(2). After deducting the \$32 million distributed  
37 | under this subparagraph, from the funds remaining, a minimum of  
38 | the lesser of 76.5 percent or \$100 million shall be appropriated  
39 | each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the  
40 | planning, design, engineering, and construction of the  
41 | Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan as set forth in s.  
42 | 373.470, including the Central Everglades Planning Project, the  
43 | Everglades Agricultural Area Storage Reservoir Project, the Lake  
44 | Okeechobee Watershed Project, the C-43 West Basin Storage  
45 | Reservoir Project, the Indian River Lagoon-South Project, the  
46 | Western Everglades Restoration Project, and the Picayune Strand  
47 | Restoration Project. The Department of Environmental Protection  
48 | and the South Florida Water Management District shall give  
49 | preference to those Everglades restoration projects that reduce  
50 | harmful discharges of water from Lake Okeechobee to the St.

51 Lucie or Caloosahatchee estuaries in a timely manner. For the  
52 purpose of performing the calculation provided in this  
53 subparagraph, the amount of debt service paid pursuant to  
54 paragraph (a) for bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the  
55 purposes set forth under paragraph (b) shall be added to the  
56 amount remaining after the payments required under paragraph  
57 (a). The amount of the distribution calculated shall then be  
58 reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to  
59 paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the  
60 purposes set forth under this subparagraph.

61 2. A minimum of the lesser of 7.6 percent or \$50 million  
62 shall be appropriated annually for spring restoration,  
63 protection, and management projects. For the purpose of  
64 performing the calculation provided in this subparagraph, the  
65 amount of debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) for bonds  
66 issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under  
67 paragraph (b) shall be added to the amount remaining after the  
68 payments required under paragraph (a). The amount of the  
69 distribution calculated shall then be reduced by an amount equal  
70 to the debt service paid pursuant to paragraph (a) on bonds  
71 issued after July 1, 2016, for the purposes set forth under this  
72 subparagraph.

73 3. The sum of \$5 million shall be appropriated annually  
74 each fiscal year through the 2025-2026 fiscal year to the St.  
75 Johns River Water Management District for projects dedicated to

76 | the restoration of Lake Apopka. This distribution shall be  
77 | reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to  
78 | paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2016, for the  
79 | purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

80 |         4. The sum of \$64 million is appropriated and shall be  
81 | transferred to the Everglades Trust Fund for the 2018-2019  
82 | fiscal year, and each fiscal year thereafter, for the EAA  
83 | reservoir project pursuant to s. 373.4598. Any funds remaining  
84 | in any fiscal year shall be made available only for Phase II of  
85 | the C-51 reservoir project or projects identified in  
86 | subparagraph 1. and must be used in accordance with laws  
87 | relating to such projects. Any funds made available for such  
88 | purposes in a fiscal year are in addition to the amount  
89 | appropriated under subparagraph 1. This distribution shall be  
90 | reduced by an amount equal to the debt service paid pursuant to  
91 | paragraph (a) on bonds issued after July 1, 2017, for the  
92 | purposes set forth in this subparagraph.

93 |         5. The sum of \$100 million is appropriated annually to the  
94 | Florida Forever Trust Fund ~~Notwithstanding subparagraph 3., for~~  
95 | ~~the 2019-2020 fiscal year, funds shall be appropriated as~~  
96 | ~~provided in the General Appropriations Act. This subparagraph~~  
97 | ~~expires July 1, 2020.~~

98 |         Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.