

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to sanitary sewer laterals; amending
3 ss. 125.569, and 166.0481, F.S.; authorizing each
4 county and municipality to develop specifications and
5 standards to repair leaking, damaged, or clogged
6 sanitary sewer laterals on residential and commercial
7 properties if certain criteria are met; authorizing
8 counties and municipalities to access sanitary sewer
9 laterals to clean, repair, and replace them for
10 certain purposes; providing notification requirements;
11 providing an effective date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14

15 Section 1. Subsections (3) and (4) are added to section
16 125.569, Florida Statutes, to read:

17 125.569 Sanitary sewer lateral inspection programs for
18 counties.—

19 (3) Each county that has established an evaluation and
20 rehabilitation program for sanitary sewer laterals on
21 residential and commercial properties within the county's
22 jurisdiction under paragraph (2) (a) may develop detailed
23 specifications and standards for repairing or replacing any
24 leaking, damaged, deteriorated, or clogged laterals on such
25 properties. Such specifications and standards shall accord with

26 all industry standards for lateral lines rehabilitation in
 27 common acceptance as of the date the specifications and
 28 standards are adopted by the county. For guidance on such
 29 applicable industry standards, the county shall consult ASTM
 30 International standards F2561, F3240, and F477 in effect as of
 31 the date the county adopts its specifications and standards.

32 (4) If specifications and standards have been developed as
 33 set forth in subsection (3), beginning July 1, 2023, a county
 34 may access residential or commercial properties to clean,
 35 repair, recondition, or replace the sanitary sewer laterals and
 36 to reestablish a sealed sanitary sewer system as originally
 37 designed for the safe and proper transfer and conveyance of
 38 sewage from the respective property to the wastewater treatment
 39 plant.

40 (a) Before a county accesses a residential or commercial
 41 property, it must notify the property owner by mail at least 14
 42 days before the start of the project of the county's intent to
 43 access the property to clean, repair, recondition, or replace
 44 the sanitary sewer lateral.

45 (b) The notice must:

46 1. Provide a proposed timeline and plan for the completion
 47 of the sanitary sewer lateral project.

48 2. Provide an estimate of the start and completion dates.

49 3. Inform the property owner that the owner will be
 50 completely indemnified and held harmless in this process and

51 will assume no liability and responsibility for accidents or
52 problems that may occur during the project.

53 4. State that the county, by way of the contractor
54 procured to perform the work, will restore the property to the
55 prework condition or better and shall incur any and all costs
56 associated with the sanitary sewer lateral project.

57 Section 2. Subsections (3) and (4) are added to section
58 166.0481, Florida Statutes, to read:

59 166.0481 Sanitary sewer lateral inspection programs for
60 municipalities.—

61 (3) Each municipality that has established an evaluation
62 and rehabilitation program for sanitary sewer laterals on
63 residential and commercial properties within the municipality's
64 jurisdiction under paragraph (2) (a) may develop detailed
65 specifications and standards for repairing or replacing any
66 leaking, damaged, deteriorated, or clogged laterals on such
67 properties. The specifications and standards shall accord with
68 all industry standards for lateral lines rehabilitation in
69 common acceptance as of the date the specifications and
70 standards are adopted by the municipality. For guidance on such
71 applicable industry standards, the municipality shall consult
72 ASTM International standards F2561, F3240, and F477 in effect as
73 of the date the municipality adopts its specifications and
74 standards.

75 (4) If specifications and standards have been developed as

76 set forth in subsection (3), beginning July 1, 2023, a
77 municipality may access residential or commercial properties to
78 clean, repair, recondition, or replace the sanitary sewer
79 laterals and to reestablish the sealed sanitary sewer system as
80 originally designed for the safe and proper transfer and
81 conveyance of sewage from the respective property to the
82 wastewater treatment plant.

83 (a) Before a municipality accesses a residential or
84 commercial property, it must notify the property owner by mail
85 at least 14 days before the start of the project of the
86 municipality's intent to access the property to clean, repair,
87 recondition, or replace the sanitary sewer lateral.

88 (b) The notice must:

89 1. Provide a proposed timeline and plan for the completion
90 of the sanitary sewer lateral project.

91 2. Provide an estimate of the start and completion dates.

92 3. Inform the property owner that the owner will be
93 completely indemnified and held harmless in this process and
94 will assume no liability and responsibility for accidents or
95 problems that occur during the project.

96 4. State that the municipality, by way of the contractor
97 procured to perform the work, will restore the property to the
98 prework condition or better and shall incur any and all costs
99 associated with the sanitary sewer lateral project.

100 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.