

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to engineering services during state  
 3           of emergency; creating s. 471.051, F.S.; providing  
 4           immunity from liability for professional engineers,  
 5           registered architects, certified structures  
 6           specialists, and other specified persons while they  
 7           are voluntarily providing engineering services during  
 8           a declared state of emergency; providing a definition  
 9           of the term "structures specialist"; providing an  
 10          effective date.

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

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 14           Section 1. Section 471.051, Florida Statutes, is created  
 15 to read:

16           471.051 Engineering services during declared state of  
 17 emergency.—

18           (1) A professional engineer as defined in s. 471.005, a  
 19 registered architect as defined in s. 481.203, or a certified  
 20 structures specialist as defined in subsection (2) who  
 21 voluntarily provides engineering services during a declared  
 22 state of emergency or within 90 calendar days after the end date  
 23 of the declared state of emergency is immune from liability for  
 24 any personal injury, wrongful death, property damage, or other  
 25 loss related to the professional engineer's, registered

26 | architect's, or certified structures specialist's acts or  
27 | omissions in the performance of his or her services, provided  
28 | that the professional engineer, registered architect, or  
29 | certified structures specialist acted reasonably and in good  
30 | faith and the act did not involve gross negligence or willful  
31 | misconduct.

32 | (2) As used in this section, the term "structures  
33 | specialist" means a person who has been trained by and holds a  
34 | current certificate from the United States Army Corps of  
35 | Engineers as a Structures Specialist (StS).

36 | (3) A person who is licensed, registered, or certified in  
37 | another state as an engineer, architect, or structures  
38 | specialist and who voluntarily provides engineering services  
39 | while participating as a member of another state's mobile  
40 | support unit which is rendering aid in this state during a  
41 | declared state of emergency or within 90 calendar days after the  
42 | end date of the declared state of emergency is immune from  
43 | liability for any personal injury, wrongful death, property  
44 | damage, or other loss related to the person's acts or omissions  
45 | in the performance of his or her services, provided that the  
46 | person acted reasonably and in good faith and the act did not  
47 | involve gross negligence or willful misconduct.

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