



856124

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/22/2022	.	
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Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and
General Government (Gruters) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause
and insert:

Section 1. Section 403.9339, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

403.9339 Golf course best management practices
certification.—

(1) To provide a means of documenting and ensuring
compliance with best management practices for fertilizer



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11 application to golf courses, the turfgrass science program at
12 the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural
13 Sciences, in coordination with the department, shall administer
14 a certification for golf course best management practices.

15 (2) The turfgrass science program, in cooperation with the
16 department, shall:

17 (a) Provide training and testing programs in golf course
18 best management practices and may issue certificates
19 demonstrating satisfactory completion of the training.

20 (b) Approve training and testing programs in golf course
21 best management practices that are equivalent to or more
22 comprehensive than the programs provided by the turfgrass
23 science program under paragraph (a). Such programs must be
24 reviewed and reapproved by the turfgrass science program if
25 significant changes are made.

26 (3) To obtain a golf course best management practices
27 certification, an applicant must submit to the turfgrass science
28 program a copy of the training certificate issued under
29 subsection (2).

30 (4) A golf course best management practices certification
31 issued under this section expires 4 years after the date of
32 issuance. Upon expiration of the certification, or after a grace
33 period of not more than 30 days after the expiration date, a
34 recertification may be issued.

35 (5) To obtain a golf course best management practices
36 recertification, an applicant must submit to the turfgrass
37 science program proof of having completed 8 classroom hours of
38 continuing education, of which at least 2 hours must address
39 fertilizer best management practices.



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40 (6) A person certified under this section is exempt from:
41 (a) Additional local training.
42 (b) Local ordinances relating to water and fertilizer use
43 blackout periods or restrictions, unless a state of emergency is
44 declared. The certified person must continue to coordinate with
45 the local government to ensure that he or she adheres to the
46 comprehensive best management practices for that specific
47 community.

48 (7) This section does not exempt a person certified under
49 this section from complying with the rules and requirements for
50 basin management action plans set forth in s. 403.067(7) if the
51 golf course is located in an area within a basin management
52 action plan.

53 (8) (a) The turfgrass science program may provide the
54 certification status of persons certified under this section to
55 local and state governmental entities.

56 (b) The turfgrass science program is encouraged to create a
57 registry of persons certified under this section on its website.

58 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

59
60 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

61 And the title is amended as follows:

62 Delete everything before the enacting clause
63 and insert:

64 A bill to be entitled
65 An act relating to golf course best management
66 practices certification; creating s. 403.9339, F.S.;

67 requiring the turfgrass science program at the
68 University of Florida Institute of Food and



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69 Agricultural Sciences, in coordination and cooperation
70 with the Department of Environmental Protection, to
71 administer a certification for golf course best
72 management practices and provide and approve
73 certification training and testing programs; providing
74 certification and recertification requirements;
75 providing that such certification exempts persons from
76 certain local training and local ordinance
77 regulations; providing construction; authorizing the
78 turfgrass science program to share certification
79 information with local and state governmental
80 entities; encouraging the turfgrass science program to
81 create an online certification registry; providing an
82 effective date.