HB 6089

2022

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the purchase of plant materials for
3	transportation projects; amending s. 334.044, F.S.;
4	removing provisions requiring that certain percentages
5	of funds allocated by the Department of Transportation
6	for construction projects be used for the purchase of
7	plant materials; providing an effective date.
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9	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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11	Section 1. Subsection (26) of section 334.044, Florida
12	Statutes, is amended to read:
13	334.044 Powers and duties of the departmentThe
14	department shall have the following general powers and duties:
15	(26) To provide for the enhancement of environmental
16	benefits, including air and water quality; to prevent roadside
17	erosion; to conserve the natural roadside growth and scenery;
18	and to provide for the implementation and maintenance of
19	roadside conservation, enhancement, and stabilization programs.
20	At least 1.5 percent of the amount contracted for construction
21	projects shall be allocated by the department on a statewide
22	basis for the purchase of plant materials. Department districts
23	may not expend funds for landscaping in connection with any
24	project that is limited to resurfacing existing lanes unless the
25	expenditure has been approved by the department's secretary or

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26 the secretary's designee. To the greatest extent practical, at 27 least 50 percent of the funds allocated under this subsection 28 shall be allocated for large plant materials and the remaining 29 funds for other plant materials. Except as prohibited by 30 applicable federal law or regulation, all plant materials shall 31 be purchased from Florida commercial nursery stock in this state 32 on a uniform competitive bid basis. The department shall develop 33 grades and standards for landscaping materials purchased through 34 this process. To accomplish these activities, the department may 35 contract with nonprofit organizations having the primary purpose 36 of developing youth employment opportunities.

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

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