

By the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources; and
Senator Rodriguez

592-02545-23

20231072c1

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to dredging and beach restoration
3 projects; amending s. 403.816, F.S.; directing the
4 Department of Environmental Protection to require, as
5 a condition of permits issued for certain dredging and
6 beach restoration projects, that any adverse impact
7 analysis conducted for the activity meet certain
8 requirements; requiring a local government to provide
9 notice of its intent to conduct an analysis to certain
10 adjacent local governments; providing applicability;
11 providing an effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 403.816, Florida
16 Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (4), and a new
17 subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

18 403.816 Permits for maintenance dredging of deepwater ports
19 and beach restoration projects.—

20 (3) As a condition of a permit issued for a project
21 pursuant to this section, the department shall require that any
22 analysis to determine the adverse impacts of the activity on the
23 natural habitat be conducted by an independent contractor
24 selected by the local government in a manner prescribed by the
25 department. The independent contractor for the analysis may not
26 be associated with any project of the contractor performing the
27 activity for the local government. The local government shall
28 provide written notice of its intent to conduct an analysis to
29 adjacent local governments that may be impacted by the activity.

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30 This subsection does not apply to permits issued before July 1,
31 2024.

32 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.