

By the Committees on Community Affairs; and Environment and Natural Resources; and Senator Rodriguez

578-03553-23

20231072c2

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. Present subsection (3) of section 403.816,
16 Florida 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 and in a manner prescribed by
25 the department. The independent contractor conducting the
26 analysis may not be associated with any project of the
27 contractor performing the activity for the local government for
28 a period of 5 years before the commencement of the analysis and
29 for a period of 5 years after the completion of the analysis.

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30 The local government shall provide written notice of its intent
31 to have an analysis conducted to adjacent local governments that
32 may be impacted by the activity. However, this subsection does
33 not apply to any deepwater port maintenance dredging.

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