The Committee on Fiscal Policy (Martin) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 156 - 447 and insert:

Section 4. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraphs (bb), (cc), and (dd) are added to subsection (2) of section 252.35, Florida Statutes, to read:

252.35 Emergency management powers; Division of Emergency Management.—

(2) The division is responsible for carrying out the
provisions of ss. 252.31-252.90. In performing its duties, the
division shall:

(bb) Post on its website a model of a local government
contract for debris removal to be used by political
subdivisions. The initial model contract must be posted to the
website no later than June 1, 2023, and, thereafter, the model
contract must be annually updated and posted to the website no
later than June 1.

(cc) Prioritize technical assistance and training to
fiscally constrained counties as defined in s. 218.67 on aspects
of safety measures, preparedness, prevention, response,
recovery, and mitigation relating to natural disasters and
emergencies.

(dd) Administer a revolving loan program for local
government hazard mitigation projects.

Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section
252.363, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

252.363 Tolling and extension of permits and other
authorizations.—

(1)(a) The declaration of a state of emergency issued by
the Governor for a natural emergency tolls the period remaining
to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for
the duration of the emergency declaration. Further, the
emergency declaration extends the period remaining to exercise
the rights under a permit or other authorization for 24 months
in addition to the tolled period. The extended period to
exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization may
not exceed 48 months in total in the event of multiple natural
emergencies for which the Governor declares a state of
emergency. This paragraph applies to the following:

1. The expiration of a development order issued by a local government.

2. The expiration of a building permit.

3. The expiration of a permit issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part IV of chapter 373.

4. Permits issued by the Department of Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant to part II of chapter 373 for land subject to a development agreement under ss. 163.3220-163.3243 in which the permittee and the developer are the same or a related entity.

5. The buildout date of a development of regional impact, including any extension of a buildout date that was previously granted as specified in s. 380.06(7)(c).

6. The expiration of a development permit or development agreement authorized by Florida Statutes, including those authorized under the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act, or issued by a local government or other governmental agency.

Section 6. Section 252.391, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.391 Emergency financial plans.—

(1) As used in this section, the term “local governmental entity” means a county, municipality, or district school board.

(2) Each local governmental entity is encouraged to develop an emergency financial plan for major natural disasters that may impact its jurisdiction. Disasters include, but are not limited to, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, and wildfires.
(3) Each emergency financial plan should be based on the likely frequency of the disaster’s occurrence. The financial plan should include a calculation of the costs for the natural disaster event and a determination of the financial resources available to the local governmental entity. If insufficient funds are available to address the disaster event, the emergency financial plan should identify strategies to close the gap between the disaster event costs and the local governmental entity’s financial capacity. Such strategies may include rainy day funds, reprioritizing its annual budget, and borrowing.

(4) Local governmental entities should annually review their emergency financial plans to address changes in conditions.

Section 7. Subsections (3) and (4) are added to section 252.40, Florida Statutes, to read:

252.40 Mutual aid arrangements.—

(3) Local governments may create inspection teams to review and approve expedited permits for temporary housing solutions, repairs, and renovations after a natural disaster. Local governments are encouraged to establish interlocal agreements with other jurisdictions to provide additional inspection services during a state of emergency.

(4) Municipalities and counties are encouraged to develop and adopt plans to provide temporary accommodations for contractors, utility workers, first responders, and others dispatched to aid in hurricane recovery efforts. Public areas, including, but not limited to, fairgrounds and parking lots, may be used for tents and trailers for such temporary accommodations.
Section 8. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraph (g) of subsection (2) of section 287.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

287.055 Acquisition of professional architectural, engineering, landscape architectural, or surveying and mapping services; definitions; procedures; contingent fees prohibited; penalties.—

(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section:

(g) A “continuing contract” is a contract for professional services entered into in accordance with all the procedures of this act between an agency and a firm whereby the firm provides professional services to the agency for projects in which the estimated construction cost of each individual project under the contract does not exceed $4 million, for study activity if the fee for professional services for each individual study under the contract does not exceed $500,000, or for work of a specified nature as outlined in the contract required by the agency, with the contract being for a fixed term or with no time limitation except that the contract must provide a termination clause. Firms providing professional services under continuing contracts shall not be required to bid against one another. The term “continuing contract” includes contracts executed through December 31, 2023, for professional services to the agency for projects related to repairs and remediation to a specific site due to damage caused by Hurricane Ian in which the estimated construction cost for each individual project does not exceed $15 million.

Section 9. The amendments made by this act to s. 287.055(2)(g), Florida Statutes, expire on July 1, 2026, and the
text of that paragraph shall revert to that in existence on the
day before the date that this act became a law, except that any
amendments to such text enacted other than by this act shall be
preserved and continue to operate to the extent that such
amendments are not dependent upon the portions of the text which
expire pursuant to this section.

Section 10. Section 288.066, Florida Statutes, as created
by section 1 of chapter 2023-1, Laws of Florida, is amended to
read:

288.066 Local Government Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan
Program.—

(1) CREATION.—The Local Government Emergency Revolving
Bridge Loan Program is created, subject to appropriation, within
the department to provide financial assistance to local
governments impacted by federally declared disasters Hurricane
Ian or Hurricane Nicole. The purpose of the loan program is to
assist these local governments in maintaining government
operations by bridging the gap between the time that the
declared disaster occurred and the time that additional funding
sources or revenues are secured to provide them with financial
assistance.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a loan under the
program, a local government must be a county or a municipality
located in an area designated in the Federal Emergency
Management Agency disaster declaration declarations for
Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole. The local government must
show that it may suffer or has suffered substantial loss of its
tax or other revenues as a result of the disaster hurricane and
demonstrate a need for financial assistance to enable it to

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continue to perform its governmental operations. Access to and
eligibility for the loan program supersedes any local government
charter or borrowing limitations that would otherwise
financially constrain the local government’s ability to recover
from a disaster.

(3) LOAN TERMS.—
(a) The department may provide interest-free loans to
eligible local governments through a promissory note or other
form of written agreement evidencing an obligation to repay the
borrowed funds to the department.
(b) The amount of each loan must be based upon demonstrated
need and must be disbursed to the local government in a lump
sum.
(c) The term of the loan is up to 1 year, unless otherwise
extended by the department. However, the department may extend
loan terms for up to 6 months based on the local government’s
financial condition.

(4) APPLICATION.—The department shall prescribe a loan
application and any other information determined necessary by
the department to review and evaluate the application. The
eligible local government must submit a loan application within
the 12 months after the date that the federal disaster was
declared. Upon receipt of an application, the department shall
review the application and may request additional information as
necessary to complete the review and evaluation. The department
shall determine the amount to be loaned, which may be a lower
amount than requested, based on the information provided and the
total amount of funds available to be loaned and in relation to
demonstrated need from other eligible applicants. The department
may deny a loan application. Reasons for a loan application denial may include, but are not limited to, the loan risk, an incomplete application, failure to demonstrate need, or the fact that receiving a loan may negatively affect the local government’s eligibility for other federal programs.

(5)(4) USE OF LOAN FUNDS.—A local government may use loan funds only to continue local governmental operations or to expand or modify such operations to meet disaster-related needs. The funds may not be used to finance or supplant funding for capital improvements or to repair or restore damaged public facilities or infrastructure.

(6)(5) LOAN REPAYMENT.—

(a) The local government may make payments against the loan at any time without penalty. Early repayment is encouraged as other funding sources or revenues become available to the local government.

(b) Loans become due and payable in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

(7)(6) ADMINISTRATION.—

(a) Upon the issuance of a federal disaster declaration, the department shall provide notice of application requirements and the total amount of funds available and make loan information available to eligible local governments. Based upon the amount of funds in the Economic Development Trust Fund available to be loaned and anticipated balances, the department may make funds available in an amount reasonably related to the anticipated need, based upon the impacts of the federal disaster, up to the total amount available. The department may approve loans in the 2022-2023 fiscal year or the 2023-2024
fiscal year up to the total amount appropriated.

(b) The department must coordinate with the Division of Emergency Management or other applicable state agencies to assess whether such loans would affect reimbursement under federal programs for disaster-related expenses.

c) All repayments of principal and interest shall be returned to the loan fund and made available as provided in this section. Notwithstanding s. 216.301, funds appropriated for this program are not subject to reversion. Upon receipt of any loan payment from a local government, the department shall transfer the funds to the General Revenue Fund.

(8)(7) RULES.—The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

(9)(8) EXPIRATION.—This section expires July 1, 2038 June 30, 2027. A loan may not be awarded after June 30, 2038. Upon expiration, all unencumbered funds and loan repayments made on or after July 1, 2038, shall be transferred revert to the General Revenue Fund.

Section 11. Effective upon becoming a law, subsection (5) is added to section 489.117, Florida Statutes, to read:

489.117 Registration; specialty contractors.—

(5) Notwithstanding paragraph (1)(b), a registered contractor may engage in contracting only for work covered by the registration within an area for which a state of emergency is declared pursuant to s. 252.36 for a natural emergency. This authorization terminates 24 months after the expiration of the declared state of emergency. The local jurisdiction that licenses the registered contractor may discipline the registered contractor for violations occurring outside the licensing
jurisdiction which occur during the period such work is authorized under this subsection.

Section 12. Section 553.7922, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

553.7922 Local government—expedited approval of certain permits.—Following a state of emergency declared pursuant to 252.36 for a natural emergency, local governments impacted by the emergency shall approve special processing procedures to expedite permit issuance for permits that do not require technical review, including, but not limited to, roof repairs, reroofing, electrical repairs, service changes, or the replacement of one window or one door. Local governments may waive application and inspection fees for permits expedited under this section.

Section 13. Effective upon becoming a law, present subsections (8) and (9) of section 553.80, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (9) and (10), respectively, and a new subsection (8) is added to that section, to read:

553.80 Enforcement.—

(8) Effective January 1, 2023, local governments located in areas designated in the Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster declarations for Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole may not raise building inspection fees, as authorized by s. 125.56(2) or s. 166.222 and this section, before October 1, 2024. This subsection expires June 30, 2025.

Section 14. A county or municipality located in an area designated in a Federal Emergency Management Agency disaster declaration for Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole shall not propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures to
its comprehensive plan or land development regulations, concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit or development order, to the extent those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before October 1, 2024. This subsection applies retroactively to September 29, 2022.

(2) Any comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, site plan, development permit, or development order approved by a county or municipality under procedures adopted before the effective date of this act may be enforced.

(3) This section shall take effect upon becoming a law and expires June 30, 2025.

Section 15. Section 627.4108, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

627.4108 Submission of claims handling manuals; attestation.—

(1) This section is intended to ensure that property insurers are able to properly handle insurance claims during natural disasters, catastrophes, and other emergencies.

(2) Each authorized property insurer and eligible surplus lines property insurer conducting business in this state must submit any and all claims handling manuals to the office:

(a) On or before August 1, 2023;

(b) Annually thereafter, on or before May 1 of each calendar year; and

(c) Within 30 days of any updates or amendments to such manual.

(2) The insurer must include with each such submission an attestation on a form prescribed by the office stating that:
(a) The insurer's claims handling manual complies with the requirements of this code and comports to usual and customary industry claims handling practices; and

(b) The insurer maintains adequate resources available to implement the requirements of its claims handling manual at all times, including during extreme catastrophic events.

(3) The office may, as often as it deems necessary, conduct market conduct examinations under s. 624.3161 of insurers to ensure compliance with this section.

Section 16. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (2) of section 823.11, Florida Statutes, to read:

823.11 Derelict vessels; relocation or removal; penalty.—

(2)

(d) Notwithstanding the additional 45 days provided in subparagraph (b)2.b. during which an owner or a responsible party may not be charged for a violation of this section, the commission, an officer of the commission, a law enforcement agency or officer specified in s. 327.70, or, during a state of emergency declared by the Governor, the Division of Emergency Management or its designee, may immediately begin the process set forth in s. 705.103(2)(a) and, once that process has been completed and the 45 days provided herein have passed, any vessel that has not been removed or repaired such that it is no longer derelict upon the waters of this state may be removed and destroyed as provided therein.

Section 17. For the 2023-2024 fiscal year, the sums of $1,000,000 in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund and $10,000,000 in nonrecurring funds from the Federal Grants Trust Fund are appropriated to the Division of Emergency
Management to fund the Safeguarding Tomorrow Through Ongoing Risk Mitigation Act Revolving Loan Program. These funds shall be placed in reserve. The division is authorized to submit a budget amendment for release of the funds held in reserve for approval by the Legislative Budget Commission pursuant to chapter 216, Florida Statutes. Release is contingent upon documentation of an award or other approval by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the division’s approved intended use plan for the funds.

Section 18. The sum of $971,331 in recurring funds and $37,456 in nonrecurring funds from the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund and eight positions with associated salary rate of $625,000 is appropriated to the Office of Insurance Regulation related to hurricane related market conduct activity.

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete lines 19 - 80 and insert:

counties; requiring the division administer a revolving loan fund for certain local government projects; amending s. 252.363, F.S.; increasing the timeframe to exercise rights under a permit or other authorization; limiting the timeframe to exercise rights under a permit or other authorization to a certain timeframe when multiple natural emergencies occur; creating s. 252.391, F.S.; defining the term “local governmental entity”; encouraging local governmental entities to develop an emergency
financial plan for major disasters; providing the contents of the emergency financial plan; recommending annual review of the emergency financial plan; amending s. 252.40, F.S.; authorizing local governments to create inspection teams for the review and approval of certain expedited permits; encouraging local governments to establish certain interlocal agreements; encouraging local governments to develop plans related to temporary accommodations of certain individuals; amending s. 287.055, F.S.; revising the definition of the term “continuing contract”; providing for the future expiration and reversion of specified statutory text; amending s. 288.066, F.S.; creating the Local Government Emergency Revolving Bridge Loan Program within the Department of Economic Opportunity to provide certain financial assistance to local governments impacted by federally declared disasters; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing construction; authorizing the department to provide interest-free loans to eligible local governments through specified means; requiring the department to prescribe a loan application; requiring the department to determine the loan amount based on certain factors; authorizing the department to deny a loan application and providing specified reasons for such denial; requiring the department to provide certain notice and make loan information available to eligible local governments; requiring loan repayments to be returned to the loan fund;
providing that funds appropriated for the program are not subject to reversion; providing for expiration; amending s. 489.117, F.S.; authorizing a registered contractor to engage in contracting under certain circumstances; providing an expiration timeframe for such authorization; authorizing the local jurisdiction to discipline the registered contractor under certain circumstances; creating s. 553.7922, F.S.; requiring local governments impacted by certain emergencies to approve special processing procedures to expedite certain permits; amending s. 553.80, F.S.; prohibiting certain local governments from raising building inspection fees during a certain timeframe; providing for future expiration; prohibiting counties and municipalities located in areas included in certain federal disaster declarations from adopting or amending certain procedures for a specified period; providing for retroactive application; providing that certain comprehensive plan amendments, land development regulations, site plans, and development permits or orders may be enforced; providing for expiration; creating s. 627.4108, F.S.; requiring certain property insurers to submit any and all claims handling manuals to the Office of Insurance Regulation by a certain date and annually thereafter and within a certain timeframe of any updates to such manual; requiring the insurer to include a certain attestation on a form prescribed by the office; requiring the office to conduct market conduct exams as necessary;
amending s. 823.11, F.S.; authorizing certain persons

to engage in a process relating to the removal and
destruction of derelict vessels; providing
appropriations; providing for the transfer of