

By Senator Simon

3-01152-23

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Apalachicola Bay Area of
3 Critical State Concern; amending s. 380.0555, F.S.;
4 authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection
5 to expend certain funds for the purpose of entering
6 into financial assistance agreements with the City of
7 Apalachicola for specified surface water and
8 groundwater quality improvement projects within the
9 Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern;
10 providing for expiration of the authorization;
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 (11) is added to section 380.0555,
16 Florida Statutes, to read:

17 380.0555 Apalachicola Bay Area; protection and designation
18 as area of critical state concern.—

19 (11) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS.—Beginning in the
20 2023-2024 fiscal year and continuing through the 2027-2028
21 fiscal year, the Department of Environmental Protection may
22 expend up to \$5 million each fiscal year for the purpose of
23 entering into financial assistance agreements with the City of
24 Apalachicola to implement projects that improve surface water
25 and groundwater quality within the Apalachicola Bay Area of
26 Critical State Concern, including the construction of stormwater
27 management facilities and central sewage collection facilities,
28 installation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems,
29 direct and indirect potable reuse, and other water quality and

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30 water supply projects. This subsection expires on June 30, 2028.

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