

By Senator Gruters

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Red Tide Mitigation and
3 Technology Development Initiative; amending s.
4 379.2273, F.S.; requiring the initiative to develop
5 certain deployment technologies and submit a report on
6 the technologies to the Department of Environmental
7 Protection; requiring the department to make certain
8 determinations regarding the technologies within a
9 specified time period; providing that the technologies
10 are deemed approved for use in specified state waters
11 under certain circumstances; extending the expiration
12 date of the initiative; providing appropriations;
13 providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Present paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (2)
18 of section 379.2273, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
19 paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is
20 added to that subsection, and subsection (4) of that section is
21 amended, to read:

22 379.2273 Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology
23 Development Initiative; Initiative Technology Advisory Council.—

24 (2) The Florida Red Tide Mitigation and Technology
25 Development Initiative is established as a partnership between
26 the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute within the commission
27 and Mote Marine Laboratory.

28 (c) Upon successful completion of science-based laboratory
29 testing of prevention, control, and mitigation approaches and

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30 technologies, the initiative shall develop field trial
31 deployment technologies for the approaches and technologies.
32 When the initiative develops a field trial deployment
33 technology, the initiative shall submit a report with its
34 findings to the department. Within 30 business days after
35 receipt of the report, the department shall review the
36 technology and approve, approve with conditions, or deny with
37 explanation the use of the technology in state waters exhibiting
38 red tide bloom concentrations of greater than 10,000 cells per
39 liter. If the department fails to approve, approve with
40 conditions, or deny with explanation a field trial deployment
41 technology within 30 business days after receipt of the report,
42 the technology shall be deemed approved for use in state waters
43 exhibiting red tide bloom concentrations of greater than 10,000
44 cells per liter.

45 (4) This section expires June 30, 2027 ~~2025~~.

46 Section 2. For the 2025-2026 fiscal year and the 2026-2027
47 fiscal year, the sum of \$2 million is appropriated from the
48 General Revenue Fund to the Fish and Wildlife Conservation
49 Commission for the purpose of implementing s. 329.2273, Florida
50 Statutes.

51 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.