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1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to mangrove replanting and
3	restoration; amending s. 403.9324, F.S.; requiring the
4	Department of Environmental Protection to adopt rules
5	for mangrove replanting and restoration; providing
6	requirements for the rules; requiring the department,
7	in consultation with the Division of Insurance Agent
8	and Agency Services, to conduct a statewide
9	feasibility study regarding the use of mangroves and
10	other nature-based solutions in order to improve a
11	local government's community rating for flood
12	insurance purposes; requiring a report to the Governor
13	and the Legislature by a specified date; providing an
14	effective date.
15	
16	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
17	
18	Section 1. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section
19	403.9324, Florida Statutes, to read:
20	403.9324 Mangrove protection rule; delegation of mangrove
21	protection to local governments
22	(7) The department shall adopt rules for mangrove
23	replanting and restoration. The rules must do all of the
24	following:
25	(a) Address significant erosion in areas of critical state
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26	concern.
27	(b) Protect barrier and spoil islands.
28	(c) Assist Everglades restoration and Biscayne Bay
29	revitalization efforts, including the development of living
30	shoreline design options for the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve
31	which are ecologically acceptable and consistent with s.
32	<u>258.397.</u>
33	(d) Promote public awareness of the value of mangroves
34	statewide and support mangrove education campaigns conducted by
35	local governmental entities.
36	(e) Identify vulnerable public and private properties
37	along the coastline and encourage partnerships with local
38	governmental entities to create local mangrove protection and
39	restoration zone programs for implementing the rules developed
40	by the department pursuant to this subsection.
41	(f) Protect and maintain access to and navigation of the
42	marked channel and the right-of-way of the Florida Intracoastal
43	Waterway as defined in s. 327.02.
44	(g) Create permitting incentives and approve of and
45	encourage the use of new strategies for living shorelines and
46	nature-based features, such as mangroves for coastal protection.
47	(h) Encourage partnerships with local governmental
48	entities to create projects for coastal protection through the
49	Resilient Florida Grant Program pursuant to s. 380.093(3)(b)1.c.
50	(8) The department, in consultation with the Division of

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51	Insurance Agent and Agency Services, shall conduct a statewide
52	feasibility study to determine the value of mangroves and other
53	nature-based solutions for coastal flood risk reduction within
54	coastal communities to reduce insurance premiums and improve
55	local governments' community ratings in the National Flood
56	Insurance Program Community Rating System. The department shall
57	submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
58	and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by July 1, 2025.
59	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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