

By Senator Collins

14-01567A-24

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to surplus lands; amending s.  
3       253.0341, F.S.; requiring the Acquisition and  
4       Restoration Council to make certain determinations for  
5       lands surplused by a local governmental entity;  
6       prohibiting future development rights from being  
7       attached to certain local governmental entity surplus  
8       lands; prohibiting the attachment of future  
9       development rights for certain surplus lands;  
10      authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection  
11      to surplus certain state-owned conservation lands;  
12      providing requirements for such action; requiring the  
13      department to submit an annual report to the Board of  
14      Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund  
15      beginning on a specified date; providing requirements  
16      for the report; amending s. 373.089, F.S.; requiring  
17      certain determinations by water management districts  
18      for surplus lands; prohibiting future development  
19      rights from being attached to certain water management  
20      district surplus lands; prohibiting the attachment of  
21      future development rights for certain surplus lands;  
22      providing an effective date.

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

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26       Section 1. Subsections (19) and (20) are added to section  
27       253.0341, Florida Statutes, to read:

28       253.0341 Surplus of state-owned lands.—

29       (19) The Acquisition and Restoration Council shall

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30 determine whether any lands surplused by a local governmental  
31 entity as defined in s. 218.72 are within a Florida Wildlife  
32 Corridor opportunity area. Future development rights may not be  
33 attached to any local governmental entity surplus lands  
34 determined to be within a Florida Wildlife Corridor opportunity  
35 area.

36 (20) Notwithstanding any other law or rule, the Department  
37 of Environmental Protection may surplus state-owned conservation  
38 lands without development rights within the Florida Wildlife  
39 Corridor. The disposition must be by a rural-lands-protection  
40 easement pursuant to s. 570.71(3), and all proceeds must be  
41 deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund within the Department  
42 of Agriculture and Consumer Services for less than fee simple  
43 land acquisitions pursuant to ss. 570.71 and 570.715. By January  
44 1, 2025, and each January 1 thereafter, the Department of  
45 Environmental Protection shall provide a report of conservation  
46 lands surplused pursuant to this subsection to the board.

47 Section 2. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (6) of  
48 section 373.089, Florida Statutes, to read:

49 373.089 Sale or exchange of lands, or interests or rights  
50 in lands.—The governing board of the district may sell lands, or  
51 interests or rights in lands, to which the district has acquired  
52 title or to which it may hereafter acquire title in the  
53 following manner:

54 (6) Any lands the title to which is vested in the governing  
55 board of a water management district may be surplused pursuant  
56 to the procedures set forth in this section and s. 373.056 and  
57 the following:

58 (e) For all lands, the governing board shall determine

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59 whether the lands are within a Florida Wildlife Corridor  
60 opportunity area. Future development rights may not be attached  
61 to any water management district surplus lands determined to be  
62 within a Florida Wildlife Corridor opportunity area.

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64 If the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund  
65 declines to accept title to the lands offered under this  
66 section, the land may be disposed of by the district under the  
67 provisions of this section.

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