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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to saltwater intrusion vulnerability  
3           assessments; amending s. 380.093, F.S.; authorizing  
4           the Department of Environmental Protection to provide  
5           coastal counties, beginning on a specified date, with  
6           Resilient Florida Grant Program grants to fund  
7           saltwater intrusion vulnerability assessments;  
8           specifying the purpose of and requirements for the  
9           assessments; requiring the department to update the  
10          comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea  
11          level rise data set and make certain information  
12          received from the saltwater intrusion vulnerability  
13          assessments publicly available on its website;  
14          requiring the department to provide cost-share funding  
15          up to a specified amount for awarded grants;  
16          specifying that certain coastal counties are not  
17          required to contribute to the cost-share funding;  
18          providing an effective date.

19  
20   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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22           Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section  
23   380.093, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (e) is  
24   added to that subsection, to read:

25           380.093 Resilient Florida Grant Program; comprehensive  
26   statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise data set and  
27   assessment; Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience  
28   Plan; regional resilience entities.—

29           (3) RESILIENT FLORIDA GRANT PROGRAM.—

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30 (b) Subject to appropriation, the department may provide  
31 grants to any ~~each~~ of the following entities:

32 1. A county or municipality to fund:

33 a. The costs of community resilience planning and necessary  
34 data collection for such planning, including comprehensive plan  
35 amendments and necessary corresponding analyses that address the  
36 requirements of s. 163.3178(2)(f).

37 b. Vulnerability assessments that identify or address risks  
38 of inland or coastal flooding and sea level rise.

39 c. For coastal counties beginning July 1, 2025, saltwater  
40 intrusion vulnerability assessments that analyze the effects of  
41 saltwater intrusion on the coastal county's water supply and the  
42 preparedness of the coastal county to respond to such a threat.

43 d. The development of projects, plans, and policies that  
44 allow communities to prepare for threats from flooding and sea  
45 level rise.

46 ~~e.d.~~ Preconstruction activities for projects ~~to be~~  
47 submitted for inclusion in the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level  
48 Rise Resilience Plan and ~~that are~~ located in a municipality that  
49 has a population of 10,000 or less ~~fewer~~ or a county that has a  
50 population of 50,000 or less ~~fewer~~, according to the most recent  
51 April 1 population estimates posted on the Office of Economic  
52 and Demographic Research's website.

53 ~~f.e.~~ Feasibility studies and the cost of permitting for  
54 nature-based solutions that reduce the impact of flooding and  
55 sea level rise.

56 2. A water management district identified in s. 373.069 to  
57 support local government adaptation planning, which may be  
58 conducted by the water management district or by a third party

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59 on behalf of the water management district. Such grants must be  
60 used for the express purpose of supporting the Florida Flood Hub  
61 for Applied Research and Innovation and the department in  
62 implementing this section through data creation and collection,  
63 modeling, and the implementation of statewide standards.  
64 Priority must be given to filling critical data gaps identified  
65 by the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation  
66 under s. 380.0933(2)(a).

67 (e)1. A saltwater intrusion vulnerability assessment  
68 conducted pursuant to sub-subparagraph (b)1.c. must include an  
69 analysis of all of the following information:

70 a. The coastal county's primary water utilities.

71 b. Current maps of the coastal county's freshwater  
72 wellfields and latest saltwater intrusion impact lines.

73 c. Projections of saltwater intrusion over the next decade,  
74 including specific wells that may be impacted during that  
75 timeframe.

76 d. The costs necessary to relocate freshwater wellfields  
77 anticipated to be impacted, including current projects that are  
78 underway to relocate the freshwater wellfields.

79 2. The department shall do all of the following:

80 a. Use the information contained in a coastal county's  
81 saltwater intrusion vulnerability assessment to update its  
82 comprehensive statewide flood vulnerability and sea level rise  
83 data set under subsection (4).

84 b. Make publicly available on the department's website any  
85 appropriate information from a saltwater intrusion vulnerability  
86 assessment it receives from coastal counties pursuant to this  
87 paragraph.

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88        c. Provide 50 percent cost-share funding up to \$250,000 for  
89 each grant awarded under this paragraph. A coastal county with a  
90 population of 50,000 or less is not required to contribute to  
91 the cost share.

92        Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.