

By Senator Garcia

36-00258-24

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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; providing an effective
7 date.

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

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11 Section 1. Subsection (7) is added to section 403.9324,
12 Florida Statutes, to read:

13 403.9324 Mangrove protection rule; delegation of mangrove
14 protection to local governments.—

15 (7) The department shall adopt rules for mangrove
16 replanting and restoration. The rules must do all of the
17 following:

18 (a) Address significant erosion in areas of critical state
19 concern.

20 (b) Protect barrier and spoil islands.

21 (c) Assist Everglades restoration and Biscayne Bay
22 revitalization efforts, including the development of living
23 shoreline design options for the Biscayne Bay Aquatic Preserve
24 which are ecologically acceptable and consistent with s.
25 258.397.

26 (d) Promote public awareness of the value of mangroves
27 statewide and support mangrove education campaigns conducted by
28 local governmental entities.

29 (e) Identify vulnerable public and private properties along

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30 the coastline and encourage partnerships with local governmental
31 entities to create local mangrove protection and restoration
32 zone programs for implementing the rules developed by the
33 department pursuant to this subsection.

34 (f) Protect and maintain access to and navigation of the
35 marked channel and the right-of-way of the Florida Intracoastal
36 Waterway as defined in s. 327.02.

37 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.