

By Senator McClain

9-01395A-25

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to spring restoration; amending s.  
3       403.064, F.S.; authorizing certain domestic wastewater  
4       treatment facilities to request the incorporation of  
5       reclaimed water projects identified in Outstanding  
6       Florida Springs recovery or prevention strategies;  
7       requiring the Department of Environmental Protection  
8       to approve such requests within a certain period of  
9       time if certain conditions are met; providing an  
10      effective date.

11  
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14       Section 1. Present paragraphs (f) through (i) of subsection  
15       (16) of section 403.064, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
16       paragraphs (g) through (j), respectively, and a new paragraph  
17       (f) is added to that subsection, to read:

18       403.064 Reuse of reclaimed water.—

19       (16) By November 1, 2021, domestic wastewater utilities  
20       that dispose of effluent, reclaimed water, or reuse water by  
21       surface water discharge shall submit to the department for  
22       review and approval a plan for eliminating nonbeneficial surface  
23       water discharge by January 1, 2032, subject to the requirements  
24       of this section. The plan must include the average gallons per  
25       day of effluent, reclaimed water, or reuse water that will no  
26       longer be discharged into surface waters and the date of such  
27       elimination, the average gallons per day of surface water  
28       discharge which will continue in accordance with the  
29       alternatives provided for in subparagraphs (a)2. and 3., and the

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30 level of treatment that the effluent, reclaimed water, or reuse  
31 water will receive before being discharged into a surface water  
32 by each alternative.

33 (f) A domestic wastewater treatment facility with an  
34 approved plan may submit a request to the department to amend  
35 the plan to incorporate a reclaimed water project identified in  
36 an Outstanding Florida Springs recovery or prevention strategy  
37 adopted pursuant to s. 373.805. The department must approve the  
38 request within 60 days after receipt of the request if all of  
39 the following conditions are met:

40 1. The identified use of reclaimed water will benefit a  
41 rural area of opportunity as defined in s. 288.0656(2).

42 2. The project will provide at least 35 million gallons per  
43 day of reclaimed water to benefit an Outstanding Florida Spring.

44 3. The project involves more than one domestic wastewater  
45 treatment facility.

46 4. The project implementation and surface water discharge  
47 elimination schedule meets the requirements of s. 373.805.

48 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.