

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to infrastructure and resiliency;
 3 amending s. 255.065, F.S.; revising the definition of
 4 the term "qualifying project"; creating s. 380.0934,
 5 F.S.; defining terms; providing that the Department of
 6 Environmental Protection has the exclusive authority
 7 to execute coastal resiliency projects through public-
 8 private partnerships; authorizing the department to
 9 take certain actions to encourage investment from the
 10 private sector in coastal resiliency projects;
 11 requiring the department to publish certain
 12 information on its website; providing an effective
 13 date.

14
 15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16
 17 **Section 1. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section**
 18 **255.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

19 255.065 Public-private partnerships.—
 20 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
 21 (i) "Qualifying project" means:
 22 1. A facility or project that serves a public purpose,
 23 including, but not limited to, any ferry or mass transit
 24 facility, vehicle parking facility, airport or seaport facility,
 25 rail facility or project, fuel supply facility, oil or gas

26 | pipeline, medical or nursing care facility, recreational
 27 | facility, sporting or cultural facility, or educational facility
 28 | or other building or facility that is used or will be used by a
 29 | public educational institution, or any other public facility or
 30 | infrastructure that is used or will be used by the public at
 31 | large or in support of an accepted public purpose or activity;

32 | 2. An improvement, including equipment, of a building that
 33 | will be principally used by a public entity or the public at
 34 | large or that supports a service delivery system in the public
 35 | sector;

36 | 3. A water, wastewater, or surface water management
 37 | facility or other related infrastructure;

38 | 4. A coastal resiliency project as defined in s. 380.0934;
 39 | or

40 | ~~5.4.~~ Notwithstanding any provision of this section, for
 41 | projects that involve a facility owned or operated by the
 42 | governing board of a county, district, or municipal hospital or
 43 | health care system, or projects that involve a facility owned or
 44 | operated by a municipal electric utility, only those projects
 45 | that the governing board designates as qualifying projects
 46 | pursuant to this section.

47 | **Section 2. Section 380.0934, Florida Statutes, is created**
 48 | **to read:**

49 | 380.0934 Public-private partnerships for coastal
 50 | resiliency projects.—

51 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:
 52 (a) "Coastal resiliency project" means:
 53 1. The planning, contracting, and execution of a project
 54 to address flooding and sea level rise in a coastal or inland
 55 community in this state pursuant to s. 380.093(5);
 56 2. Public infrastructure repair and upgrades to seawalls
 57 and stormwater drainage; and
 58 3. Resiliency measures designed to withstand extreme
 59 weather, mitigate flooding, and prevent coastal erosion,
 60 including:
 61 a. Acquisition of at-risk coastal and flood-prone
 62 properties;
 63 b. Acquisition of properties in areas at high risk of
 64 flooding;
 65 c. Infrastructure hardening and development of natural
 66 barriers;
 67 d. Construction of large-scale seawalls, levees, and
 68 elevated flood barriers; or
 69 e. Expansion and restoration of natural protective
 70 systems.
 71 (b) "Department" means the Department of Environmental
 72 Protection.
 73 (c) "Public-private partnership" means a coastal
 74 resiliency project entered into by the department under s.
 75 255.065.

76 (2) The department shall have the exclusive authority to
77 execute coastal resiliency projects through public-private
78 partnerships under s. 255.065.

79 (3) To encourage investment from the private sector in
80 coastal resiliency projects, the department may:

81 (a) Enter into long-term revenue-sharing agreements.

82 (b) Provide expedited permitting for construction.

83 (c) Seek comments from local governments and the public
84 during project planning and execution and incorporate actions
85 responsive to such comments into the project.

86 (d) Engage in-state vocational schools and apprenticeship
87 programs to train workers in specialized resiliency
88 construction.

89 (4) The department shall publish biennial progress reports
90 for each coastal resiliency project funded through a public-
91 private partnership, including project milestones, expenditures,
92 and public benefits, on the department's website. The department
93 shall also create and maintain on its website an online
94 dashboard for real-time updates on project execution.

95 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.