

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	<u>    </u>	(Y/N)
OTHER	<u>      </u>	

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1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Transportation & Economic  
 2 Development Budget Subcommittee  
 3 Representative McFarland offered the following:

**Amendment (with title amendment)**

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

**Section 1. Section 83.63, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

83.63 Casualty damage.—If the premises are damaged or destroyed other than by the wrongful or negligent acts of the tenant so that the enjoyment of the premises is substantially impaired:

(1) The tenant may terminate the rental agreement and immediately vacate the premises. The tenant may vacate the part of the premises rendered unusable by the casualty, in which case the tenant's liability for rent shall be reduced by the fair

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17 rental value of that part of the premises damaged or destroyed.  
18 If the rental agreement is terminated, the landlord shall comply  
19 with s. 83.49(3).

20 (2) The tenant must be given:

21 (a) The opportunity to collect his or her belongings from  
22 the premises when it is safe to do so; or

23 (b) Notice of the date by which the tenant will be able to  
24 collect his or her belongings from the premises, which must  
25 occur within a reasonable time.

26 **Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 101.733, Florida**  
27 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

28 101.733 Emergency suspension or delay of an election  
29 ~~emergency; purpose; elections emergency contingency plan.-~~  
30 Because of the existing and continuing possibility of an  
31 emergency or common disaster occurring before or during a  
32 regularly scheduled or special election, and in order to ensure  
33 maximum citizen participation in the electoral process and  
34 provide a safe and orderly procedure for persons seeking to  
35 exercise their right to vote, generally to minimize to whatever  
36 degree possible a person's exposure to danger during declared  
37 states of emergency, and to protect the integrity of the  
38 electoral process, it is hereby found and declared to be  
39 necessary to designate a procedure for the emergency suspension  
40 or delay and rescheduling of elections.

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41       ~~(3) The Division of Elections of the Department of State~~  
42 ~~shall adopt, by rule, an elections emergency contingency plan,~~  
43 ~~which shall contain goals and policies that give specific~~  
44 ~~direction to state and local elections officials when an~~  
45 ~~election has been suspended or delayed due to an emergency. The~~  
46 ~~contingency plan shall be statewide in scope and shall address,~~  
47 ~~but not be limited to, the following concerns:~~

48       ~~(a) Providing a procedure for state and local elections~~  
49 ~~officials to follow when an election has been suspended or~~  
50 ~~delayed to ensure notice of the suspension or delay to the~~  
51 ~~proper authorities, the electorate, the communications media,~~  
52 ~~poll workers, and the custodians of polling places.~~

53       ~~(b) Providing a procedure for the orderly conduct of a~~  
54 ~~rescheduled election, whether municipal, county, district, or~~  
55 ~~statewide in scope; coordinating those efforts with the~~  
56 ~~appropriate elections official, and the members of the governing~~  
57 ~~body holding such election, if appropriate; and working with the~~  
58 ~~appropriate emergency management officials in determining the~~  
59 ~~safety of existing polling places or designating additional~~  
60 ~~polling places.~~

61       ~~(c) Providing a procedure for the release and~~  
62 ~~certification of election returns to the department for~~  
63 ~~elections suspended or delayed and subsequently rescheduled~~  
64 ~~under the provisions of ss. 101.731-101.74.~~

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65           **Section 3. Section 101.7325, Florida Statutes, is created**  
66 **to read:**

67           101.7325 Election emergency.—

68           (1) If the Governor declares a state of emergency for a  
69 natural emergency, as defined in s. 252.34, fewer than 60 days  
70 before an election, the supervisor of a county designated as  
71 affected by such declaration may request approval from the  
72 Secretary of State to take any of the following actions  
73 necessary while the declaration continues to designate the area  
74 as an affected area:

75           (a) Notwithstanding the designation deadline in s.  
76 101.657(1)(b), change the location of designated early voting  
77 sites. The request must identify the new address of each early  
78 voting site and the hours during which early voting will occur  
79 at each site.

80           (b) Notwithstanding the early voting site locations  
81 authorized in s. 101.657(1), request early voting sites at  
82 locations not specifically authorized in law. The request must  
83 set forth sufficient facts to establish that a sufficient number  
84 of early voting sites that were designated, or that may be  
85 designated under paragraph (a), are unavailable due to the  
86 emergency. For purposes of this paragraph, reasons that early  
87 voting sites may be unavailable include, but are not limited to,  
88 the site is no longer safe for occupancy, the site is located in  
89 an area that is currently dangerous to travel to and from, or

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90 the site does not have adequate utilities. An early voting site  
91 designated under this paragraph must, to the maximum extent  
92 practicable, be geographically located so as to provide all  
93 voters in the area with an equal opportunity to cast a ballot.

94 (c) Notwithstanding s. 101.657(1)(d), allow early voting  
95 to occur the day before an election.

96 (d) Notwithstanding ss. 101.657 and 101.71, allow election  
97 day voting at early voting sites. The request must set forth  
98 sufficient facts to establish that a sufficient number of early  
99 voting sites that were designated, or that may be designated  
100 under paragraph (a), are unavailable due to the emergency. For  
101 purposes of this paragraph, reasons that a polling place may be  
102 unavailable include, but are not limited to, the polling place  
103 is no longer safe for occupancy, the polling place is located in  
104 an area that is currently dangerous to travel to and from, or  
105 the polling place does not have adequate utilities. An early  
106 voting site designated as a polling place under this paragraph  
107 must, to the maximum extent practicable, be geographically  
108 located so as to provide all voters in the area with an equal  
109 opportunity to cast a ballot.

110 (e) Notwithstanding the designation deadline in s.  
111 101.69(2)(b), designate additional secure ballot intake  
112 stations. The request must identify the location of the  
113 additional secure ballot intake stations.

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114 (f) Send a vote-by-mail ballot to a voter who has  
115 requested such ballot:

116 1. By forwardable mail or to an address other than the  
117 address listed for the voter in the statewide voter registration  
118 system.

119 2. Notwithstanding s. 101.62(1)(a) and (b), without the  
120 voter's written request or if a written request is not signed.

121 3. Notwithstanding s. 101.62(3)(c), as soon as  
122 practicable.

123 (g) If the supervisor determines that a poll worker  
124 shortage exists, appoint poll workers who have not met the  
125 training requirements in s. 102.014. However, such poll workers  
126 must have received the required training within the previous 2  
127 years.

128 (h) Notwithstanding s. 102.012(2), appoint inspectors and  
129 clerks who are registered qualified electors of this state but  
130 who are not registered qualified electors of the applicable  
131 county.

132 (2) Each supervisor of an affected area that submits a  
133 request pursuant to subsection (1) must submit all such requests  
134 at once. The Secretary of State must approve or deny the  
135 requests in writing within 36 hours after receipt. If the  
136 Secretary of State fails to approve or deny a request within the  
137 36-hour period, the request is deemed approved. The Secretary of  
138 State must publish each response on the department's website.

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139 (3) The supervisor shall use print and broadcast media,  
140 social media, Internet websites, polling place signage, and any  
141 other method necessary to inform affected voters of any changes  
142 to elections made under this section.

143 **Section 4. Section 101.735, Florida Statutes, is created**  
144 **to read:**

145 101.735 Election emergency contingency plans.—

146 (1) The division shall adopt by rule a statewide election  
147 emergency contingency plan to provide specific direction in the  
148 event an emergency occurs preceding or during an election. The  
149 contingency plan shall include, at minimum, procedures to:

150 (a) Ensure that necessary parties are notified of any  
151 changes impacting an election that has been suspended, delayed,  
152 rescheduled, or otherwise affected by an emergency. As used in  
153 this paragraph, necessary parties include proper authorities,  
154 the electorate, the media, poll workers, and polling place  
155 custodians.

156 (b) Ensure that an election that has been suspended,  
157 delayed, rescheduled, or otherwise affected by an emergency is  
158 conducted in a safe and orderly manner. The procedures must  
159 include a plan to coordinate the actions of the division,  
160 supervisors, county canvassing boards, and, if appropriate,  
161 members of the governing body holding such election.

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162 (c) Determine the safety of existing polling places or  
163 designate additional polling places in coordination with the  
164 appropriate emergency management officials.

165 (d) Release and certify returns to the division for  
166 elections suspended, delayed, rescheduled, or otherwise affected  
167 by an emergency.

168 (e) Coordinate efforts between supervisors in affected and  
169 unaffected counties to ensure voting opportunities for affected  
170 voters, including ensuring the delivery of vote-by-mail ballots  
171 to law enforcement officers, military personnel, first  
172 responders, and utility line workers.

173 (2) Each supervisor shall develop, in consultation with  
174 local emergency management officials, a local election emergency  
175 contingency plan. The contingency plan must be submitted to the  
176 division for approval by May 1 of every odd-numbered year. The  
177 division must determine whether the local election emergency  
178 contingency plan is sufficient no later than May 30. The  
179 division shall adopt rules to implement this subsection,  
180 including the creation of standard criteria for determining the  
181 sufficiency of local election emergency contingency plans.

182 **Section 5. Section 101.736, Florida Statutes, is created**  
183 **to read:**

184 101.736 Election emergency training; best practices.-

185 (1) As used in this section, the term "tabletop exercise"  
186 means a session in which participants are guided through



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187 possible scenarios and discuss their roles and responsibilities  
188 if such a scenario occurs, as well as how they would respond to  
189 such a scenario.

190 (2) The Secretary of State, in coordination with  
191 supervisors, shall develop an election emergency training  
192 program. The training is required for newly elected or appointed  
193 supervisors and any critical staff, as determined by a  
194 supervisor. The Secretary of State shall update such training at  
195 least once every 4 years.

196 (3) By June 1 of every odd-numbered year, the Secretary of  
197 State shall convene a workgroup to create a list of best  
198 practices for conducting an election during an emergency.

199 (a) The workgroup must include at least 10 current  
200 supervisors.

201 (b) The workgroup must participate in tabletop exercises  
202 involving election emergencies.

203 (4) Using the list created in subsection (3), the  
204 Secretary of State must:

205 (a) Incorporate practices applicable to all counties into  
206 the statewide election emergency contingency plan under s.  
207 101.735(1).

208 (b) Recommend practices applicable to specific counties to  
209 the applicable supervisor for inclusion in the supervisor's  
210 local election emergency contingency plan under s. 101.735(2).

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211 **Section 6. Section 163.31795, Florida Statutes, is created**  
212 **to read:**

213 163.31795 Participation in the National Flood Insurance  
214 Program.—

215 (1) For purposes of this section, the term:

216 (a) "Cumulative substantial improvement period" means the  
217 period during which an aggregate of improvements or repairs are  
218 considered for purposes of determining substantial improvement  
219 as defined in s. 161.54(12).

220 (b) "Local government" has the same meaning as in s.  
221 163.2514.

222 (2) A local government that is participating in the  
223 National Flood Insurance Program may not adopt a cumulative  
224 substantial improvement period that is longer than 1 year.

225 **Section 7. Subsection (14) is added to section 163.31801,**  
226 **Florida Statutes, to read:**

227 163.31801 Impact fees; short title; intent; minimum  
228 requirements; audits; challenges.—

229 (14) A local government, school district, or special  
230 district may not assess an impact fee for the reconstruction or  
231 replacement of a previously existing structure if the  
232 replacement structure is of the same land use as the original  
233 structure and does not increase the impact on public facilities  
234 beyond that of the original structure. However, if the  
235 replacement structure increases the demand on public facilities

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236 due to a significant increase in size, intensity, or capacity of  
237 use, a local government, school district, or special district  
238 may assess an impact fee in an amount proportional to the  
239 difference in the demand between the replacement structure and  
240 the original structure. Any such fee must be reasonably  
241 connected to, or have a rational nexus with, the need for  
242 additional capital facilities and the increased impact generated  
243 by the reconstruction or replacement of a previously existing  
244 structure.

245 **Section 8. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (4) of**  
246 **section 193.155, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

247 193.155 Homestead assessments.—Homestead property shall be  
248 assessed at just value as of January 1, 1994. Property receiving  
249 the homestead exemption after January 1, 1994, shall be assessed  
250 at just value as of January 1 of the year in which the property  
251 receives the exemption unless the provisions of subsection (8)  
252 apply.

253 (4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) and s. 193.624,  
254 changes, additions, or improvements to homestead property shall  
255 be assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after the  
256 changes, additions, or improvements are substantially completed.  
257 Maintenance or repair of the homestead property, including roof  
258 or window replacement, may not be considered to be a change, an  
259 addition, or an improvement under this subsection.

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260 (b)1. Changes, additions, or improvements that replace all  
261 or a portion of homestead property, including ancillary  
262 improvements, damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity  
263 shall be assessed upon substantial completion as provided in  
264 this paragraph. Such assessment must be calculated using the  
265 homestead property's assessed value as of the January 1  
266 immediately before the date on which the damage or destruction  
267 was sustained, subject to the assessment limitations in  
268 subsections (1) and (2), when:

269 a. The square footage of the homestead property as changed  
270 or improved does not exceed 130 ~~110~~ percent of the square  
271 footage of the homestead property before the damage or  
272 destruction; or

273 b. The total square footage of the homestead property as  
274 changed or improved does not exceed 2,000 ~~1,500~~ square feet.

275 c. When a homestead property is elevated above the base  
276 flood elevation within a special flood hazard area, the square  
277 footage underneath the homestead property that is used only for  
278 parking, storage, or access is not included when determining the  
279 total square footage of the homestead property as changed or  
280 improved under this paragraph.

281 2. The homestead property's assessed value must be  
282 increased by the just value of that portion of the changed or  
283 improved homestead property which is in excess of 130 ~~110~~  
284 percent of the square footage of the homestead property before

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285 the damage or destruction or of that portion exceeding 2,000  
286 ~~1,500~~ square feet.

287 3. Homestead property damaged or destroyed by misfortune  
288 or calamity which, after being changed or improved, has a square  
289 footage of less than 100 percent of the homestead property's  
290 total square footage before the damage or destruction shall be  
291 assessed pursuant to subsection (5).

292 4. Changes, additions, or improvements assessed pursuant  
293 to this paragraph must be reassessed pursuant to subsection (1)  
294 in subsequent years. This paragraph applies to changes,  
295 additions, or improvements commenced within 5 years after the  
296 January 1 following the damage or destruction of the homestead.

297 **Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section**  
298 **215.559, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

299 215.559 Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.—A Hurricane  
300 Loss Mitigation Program is established in the Division of  
301 Emergency Management.

302 (1) The Legislature shall annually appropriate \$10 million  
303 of the moneys authorized for appropriation under s.  
304 215.555(7)(c) from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the  
305 division for the purposes set forth in this section. Of the  
306 amount:

307 (b) Three million dollars in funds shall be used to  
308 construct or retrofit facilities used as public hurricane  
309 shelters. Each year the division shall prioritize the use of

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310 these funds for projects included in the annual report ~~of the~~  
311 ~~Shelter Development Report~~ prepared in accordance with s.  
312 252.385(3). The division shall ~~must~~ give funding priority to  
313 projects located in counties regional planning council regions  
314 that have shelter deficits, projects that are publicly owned,  
315 other than schools, and ~~to~~ projects that maximize the use of  
316 state funds.

317 **Section 10. Section 250.375, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
318 **to read:**

319 250.375 Medical officer authorization.—A servicemember  
320 trained to provide medical care who is serving under the  
321 direction of the Florida National Guard State Surgeon and is  
322 assigned to a military duty position and authorized by the  
323 Florida National Guard to provide medical care within the scope  
324 of the servicemember's professional licensure by virtue of such  
325 duty position may provide such medical care to military  
326 personnel and civilians within this state ~~physician who holds an~~  
327 ~~active license to practice medicine in any state, a United~~  
328 ~~States territory, or the District of Columbia,~~ while serving as  
329 ~~a medical officer~~ with or in support of the Florida National  
330 Guard, pursuant to federal or state orders, ~~may practice~~  
331 ~~medicine on military personnel or civilians~~ during an emergency  
332 or declared disaster ~~or during federal military training.~~

333 **Section 11. Paragraphs (y) through (dd) of subsection (2)**  
334 **of section 252.35, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as**

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335 **paragraphs (x) through (cc), respectively, and paragraphs (a),**  
336 **(c), and (s) and present paragraph (x) of that subsection are**  
337 **amended to read:**

338 252.35 Emergency management powers; Division of Emergency  
339 Management.—

340 (2) The division is responsible for carrying out the  
341 provisions of ss. 252.31-252.90. In performing its duties, the  
342 division shall:

343 (a) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management  
344 plan, which must ~~shall~~ be integrated into and coordinated with  
345 the emergency management plans and programs of the Federal  
346 Government. The division shall adopt the plan as a rule in  
347 accordance with chapter 120. The plan must be implemented by a  
348 continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency management  
349 program. The plan must contain provisions to ensure that the  
350 state is prepared for emergencies and minor, major, and  
351 catastrophic disasters, and the division shall work closely with  
352 local governments and agencies and organizations with emergency  
353 management responsibilities in preparing and maintaining the  
354 plan. The state comprehensive emergency management plan must be  
355 operations oriented and:

356 1. Include an evacuation component that includes specific  
357 regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes  
358 intergovernmental coordination of evacuation activities. This  
359 component must, at a minimum: contain guidelines for lifting

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360 tolls on state highways; ensure coordination pertaining to  
361 evacuees crossing county lines; set forth procedures for  
362 directing people caught on evacuation routes to safe shelter;  
363 establish strategies for ensuring sufficient, reasonably priced  
364 fueling locations along evacuation routes; and establish  
365 policies and strategies for emergency medical evacuations.

366 2. Include a shelter component that includes specific  
367 regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes  
368 coordination of shelter activities between the public, private,  
369 and nonprofit sectors. This component must, at a minimum:  
370 contain strategies to ensure the availability of adequate public  
371 shelter space in each county ~~region of the state~~; establish  
372 strategies for refuge-of-last-resort programs; provide  
373 strategies to assist local emergency management efforts to  
374 ensure that adequate staffing plans exist for all shelters,  
375 including medical and security personnel; provide for a  
376 postdisaster communications system for public shelters;  
377 establish model shelter guidelines for operations, registration,  
378 inventory, power generation capability, information management,  
379 and staffing; and set forth policy guidance for sheltering  
380 people with special needs.

381 3. Include a postdisaster response and recovery component  
382 that includes specific regional and interregional planning  
383 provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of  
384 postdisaster response and recovery activities. This component

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385 must provide for postdisaster response and recovery strategies  
386 according to whether a disaster is minor, major, or  
387 catastrophic. The postdisaster response and recovery component  
388 must, at a minimum: establish the structure of the state's  
389 postdisaster response and recovery organization; establish  
390 procedures for activating the state's plan; set forth policies  
391 used to guide postdisaster response and recovery activities;  
392 describe the chain of command during the postdisaster response  
393 and recovery period; describe initial and continuous  
394 postdisaster response and recovery actions; identify the roles  
395 and responsibilities of each involved agency and organization;  
396 provide for a comprehensive communications plan; establish  
397 procedures for coordinating and monitoring statewide mutual aid  
398 agreements reimbursable under federal public disaster assistance  
399 programs; provide for rapid impact assessment teams; ensure the  
400 availability of an effective statewide urban search and rescue  
401 program coordinated with the fire services; ensure the existence  
402 of a comprehensive statewide medical care and relief plan  
403 administered by the Department of Health; and establish systems  
404 for coordinating volunteers and accepting and distributing  
405 donated funds and goods.

406 4. Include additional provisions addressing aspects of  
407 preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation as determined  
408 necessary by the division.

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409           5. Address the need for coordinated and expeditious  
410 deployment of state resources, including the Florida National  
411 Guard. In the case of an imminent major disaster, procedures  
412 should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard, and,  
413 in the case of an imminent catastrophic disaster, procedures  
414 should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard and  
415 the United States Armed Forces.

416           6. Establish a system of communications and warning to  
417 ensure that the state's population and emergency management  
418 agencies are warned of developing emergency situations,  
419 including public health emergencies, and can communicate  
420 emergency response decisions.

421           7. Establish guidelines and schedules for annual exercises  
422 that evaluate the ability of the state and its political  
423 subdivisions to respond to minor, major, and catastrophic  
424 disasters and support local emergency management agencies. Such  
425 exercises shall be coordinated with local governments and, to  
426 the extent possible, the Federal Government.

427           8. Assign lead and support responsibilities to state  
428 agencies and personnel for emergency support functions and other  
429 support activities.

430           9. Include the public health emergency plan developed by  
431 the Department of Health pursuant to s. 381.00315.

432           10. Include an update on the status of the emergency  
433 management capabilities of the state and its political

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434 subdivisions. The update must include the emergency management  
435 capabilities related to public health emergencies, as determined  
436 in collaboration with the Department of Health.

437

438 The complete state comprehensive emergency management plan must  
439 be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the  
440 House of Representatives, and the Governor on February 1 of  
441 every even-numbered year.

442 (c) Assist political subdivisions in preparing and  
443 maintaining emergency management plans. Such assistance must  
444 include the development of a template for comprehensive  
445 emergency management plans, including plans for natural  
446 disasters, and guidance on the development of mutual aid  
447 agreements.

448 (s) Complete an inventory of disaster response equipment,  
449 including portable generators owned by the state and local  
450 governments which are capable of operating during a major  
451 disaster. The inventory must identify, at a minimum, the  
452 location of each generator, the number of generators stored at  
453 each specific location, the agency to which each generator  
454 belongs, the primary use of the generator by the owner agency,  
455 and the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of persons  
456 having the authority to loan the stored generators as authorized  
457 by the division during a declared emergency.

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458 ~~(x) Report biennially to the President of the Senate, the~~  
459 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of~~  
460 ~~the Supreme Court, and the Governor, no later than February 1 of~~  
461 ~~every odd-numbered year, the status of the emergency management~~  
462 ~~capabilities of the state and its political subdivisions. This~~  
463 ~~report must include the emergency management capabilities~~  
464 ~~related to public health emergencies, as determined in~~  
465 ~~collaboration with the Department of Health.~~

466 **Section 12. Subsection (4) is added, paragraph (b) of**  
467 **subsection (2) of section 252.355, Florida Statutes, is amended,**  
468 **and present subsection (4) is renumbered to subsection (5) to**  
469 **read:**

470 252.355 Registry of persons with special needs; notice;  
471 registration program.—

472 (2) In order to ensure that all persons with special needs  
473 may register, the division shall develop and maintain a special  
474 needs shelter registration program. During a public health  
475 emergency in which physical distancing is necessary, as  
476 determined by the State Health Officer, the division must  
477 maintain information on special needs shelter options that  
478 mitigate the threat of the spread of infectious diseases.

479 (b) To assist in identifying persons with special needs,  
480 home health agencies, hospices, nurse registries, home medical  
481 equipment providers, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the  
482 Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health,

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483 the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of  
484 Education, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the  
485 Department of Elder ~~Elderly~~ Affairs, and memory disorder clinics  
486 shall, and any physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter  
487 459 and any pharmacy licensed under chapter 465 may, annually  
488 provide registration information to all of their special needs  
489 clients or their caregivers. The Florida Housing Finance  
490 Corporation shall enter into memoranda of understanding with the  
491 Department of Elder Affairs and with the Agency for Persons with  
492 Disabilities, to ensure special needs registry information is  
493 provided to residents of low income senior independent  
494 living properties, and independent living properties for persons  
495 with intellectual or developmental disabilities, funded by the  
496 Florida Housing Finance Corporation, respectively. The division  
497 shall develop a brochure that provides information regarding  
498 special needs shelter registration procedures. The brochure must  
499 be easily accessible on the division's website. All appropriate  
500 agencies and community-based service providers, including aging  
501 and disability resource centers, memory disorder clinics, home  
502 health care providers, hospices, nurse registries, and home  
503 medical equipment providers, shall, and any physician licensed  
504 under chapter 458 or chapter 459 may, assist emergency  
505 management agencies by annually registering persons with special  
506 needs for special needs shelters, collecting registration  
507 information for persons with special needs as part of the

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508 program intake process, and establishing programs to educate  
509 clients about the registration process and disaster preparedness  
510 safety procedures. A client of a state-funded or federally  
511 funded service program who has a physical, mental, or cognitive  
512 impairment or sensory disability and who needs assistance in  
513 evacuating, or when in a shelter, must register as a person with  
514 special needs. The registration program shall give persons with  
515 special needs the option of preauthorizing emergency response  
516 personnel to enter their homes during search and rescue  
517 operations if necessary to ensure their safety and welfare  
518 following disasters.

519 (4) The caregiver of a person with special needs who is  
520 eligible for admission to a special needs shelter, and all  
521 persons for whom he or she is the caregiver, shall be allowed to  
522 shelter together in the special needs shelter. If a person with  
523 special needs is responsible for the care of individuals without  
524 special needs, those individuals shall be allowed to use the  
525 special needs shelter with the person with special needs.

526 **Section 13. Section 252.395, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
527 **to read:**

528 252.359 Ensuring availability of emergency supplies.—

529 (1) In order to meet the needs of residents affected  
530 during a declared emergency and to ensure the continuing  
531 economic resilience of communities impacted by disaster, the

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532 division shall establish a statewide system to facilitate the  
533 transport and distribution of essentials in commerce.

534 (2) As used in this section, the term "essentials" means  
535 goods that are consumed or used as a direct result of a declared  
536 emergency, or that are consumed or used to preserve, protect, or  
537 sustain life, health, safety, or economic well-being. The term  
538 includes, but is not limited to, personal protective equipment  
539 used in the event of a public health emergency.

540 (3) The division, as a function of emergency preparation,  
541 response, and recovery, may facilitate ~~shall develop a system to~~  
542 ~~certify each person who facilitates~~ the transport or  
543 distribution of essentials in commerce. The division ~~may not~~  
544 ~~certify a person other than a person who routinely transports or~~  
545 ~~distributes essentials. In developing the system, the division:~~

546 (a) ~~may provide for a preemergency or postemergency~~  
547 ~~transportation of essentials declaration certification.~~

548 (b) ~~Shall allow the certification of an employer, if~~  
549 ~~requested by the employer, to constitute a certification of the~~  
550 ~~employer's employees.~~

551 (c) ~~Shall create an easily recognizable indicium of~~  
552 ~~certification to assist local officials' efforts in determining~~  
553 ~~which persons have been certified under this subsection.~~

554 (d) ~~Shall limit the duration of each certificate to no~~  
555 ~~more than 1 year. Each certificate may be renewed so long as the~~  
556 ~~criteria for certification are met.~~

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557 (4) A person authorized to transport essentials ~~or~~  
558 ~~employer certified~~ under subsection (3) is not required to  
559 obtain any additional certification or fulfill any additional  
560 requirement to transport or distribute essentials.

561 (5) Notwithstanding any curfew, restriction, road block,  
562 quarantine, or other limitation on access to an area, a person  
563 authorized ~~or employer certified~~ under subsection (3) to deliver  
564 essentials may enter or remain in the restricted ~~curfew~~ area for  
565 the limited purpose of facilitating the transport or  
566 distribution of essentials and may provide service that exceeds  
567 otherwise applicable hours of service maximums to the extent  
568 authorized by a duly executed declaration of a state of  
569 emergency. Local law enforcement shall cooperate with the  
570 division to ensure the availability of essentials under this  
571 section.

572 (6) This section does not prohibit a law enforcement  
573 officer from specifying the permissible route of ingress or  
574 egress for a person authorized ~~certified~~ under subsection (3).  
575 Notwithstanding this section, all state roadways are determined  
576 by the Florida Highway Patrol in coordination with the  
577 Department of Transportation.

578 **Section 14. Subsection (2) of section 252.3611, Florida**  
579 **Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that**  
580 **section, to read:**

581 252.3611 Transparency; audits.—

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582 (2) ~~If when~~ the duration of a declaration of a state of an  
583 emergency issued by the Governor exceeds 90 days:

584 (a) 1. The Executive Office of the Governor or the  
585 appropriate agency, within 72 hours after ~~of~~ executing a  
586 contract executed with moneys authorized for expenditure to  
587 support the response to the declared state of emergency, must  
588 ~~the Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency~~  
589 ~~shall~~ submit a copy of such contract to the Legislature. For  
590 contracts executed during the first 90 days of the declared  
591 state of emergency, the Executive Office of the Governor or the  
592 appropriate agency shall submit a copy to the Legislature within  
593 the first 120 days of the declared state of emergency.

594 2. All contracts executed to support the response to a  
595 declared state of emergency, including contracts executed before  
596 a declared state of emergency to secure resources or services in  
597 advance or anticipation of an emergency, must be posted on the  
598 secure contract tracking system required under s. 215.985(14).

599 (b) The Executive Office of the Governor or the  
600 appropriate agency shall submit monthly reports to the  
601 Legislature of all state expenditures, revenues received, and  
602 funds transferred by an agency during the previous month to  
603 support the declared state of emergency.

604 (5) Annually, by January 15, the division shall report to  
605 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
606 Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriations committee

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607 of each house of the Legislature on expenditures related to  
608 emergencies incurred over the year from November 1 of the  
609 previous year. The report must include:

610 (a) A separate summary of each emergency event, whether  
611 complete or ongoing, and key actions taken by the division.

612 (b) Details of expenditures, separated by emergency event  
613 and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from  
614 the event. The report must specify detailed expenditures for the  
615 entire report time period; specify total expenditures for the  
616 event; and indicate amounts that are being or are anticipated to  
617 be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or  
618 other federal entity, amounts ineligible for reimbursement, and  
619 any amounts deobligated by the Federal Emergency Management  
620 Agency or other federal entity for reimbursement. The division  
621 shall review expenditures by state agencies to ensure that  
622 efforts, purchases, contracts, or expenditures are not  
623 duplicated.

624 (c) An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased,  
625 separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for,  
626 responding to, or recovering from the event, including motor  
627 vehicles, boats, computers, and other equipment, and the current  
628 status of such assets, including divestment, sale, or donation  
629 by the state. The report must include a detailed accounting for  
630 the entire report time period and specify a total for the event.

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631           **Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 252.365, Florida**  
632 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

633           252.365 Emergency coordination officers; disaster-  
634 preparedness plans.—

635           (4) On or before May 1 of each year, the head of each  
636 agency shall notify the Governor and the division in writing of  
637 the person initially designated as the emergency coordination  
638 officer for such agency and her or his alternate and of any  
639 changes in persons so designated thereafter.

640           **Section 16. Present paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection**  
641 **(5) of section 252.37, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as**  
642 **paragraphs (d) and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is**  
643 **added to that subsection, and subsection (7) is added to that**  
644 **section, to read:**

645           252.37 Financing.—

646           (5) Unless otherwise specified in the General  
647 Appropriations Act:

648           (c) If the division intends to accept or apply for federal  
649 funds for a division-administered program that is new, that will  
650 be implemented in a manner that is innovative or significantly  
651 different from the manner in which the program is typically  
652 administered, or that will require a state match for which the  
653 division will be required to seek new budget authority, the  
654 division must notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or  
655 apply for the federal funds. The notice must detail the federal

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656 program under which the funds will be accepted or applied for,  
657 the intended purpose and use of the funds, and the amount of  
658 funds, including the estimated state match.

659 (7) The division shall take steps to maximize the  
660 availability and expedite the distribution of financial  
661 assistance from the Federal Government to state and local  
662 agencies. Such steps must include the standardization and  
663 streamlining of the application process for financial assistance  
664 through the federal Public Assistance Program and provision of  
665 assistance to applicants in order to mitigate the risk of  
666 noncompliance with federal program requirements. The division  
667 shall use federal funds allocated as management costs or other  
668 funds as appropriated to implement this subsection.

669 **Section 17. Section 252.3713, Florida Statutes, is created**  
670 **to read:**

671 252.3713 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.—

672 (1) The division shall administer the Hazard Mitigation  
673 Grant Program as authorized and described in s. 404 of the  
674 Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act,  
675 as amended by Pub. L. No. 103-181, Pub. L. No. 103-337, and Pub.  
676 L. No. 106-390.

677 (2) The division may retain no more than 25 percent of the  
678 total federal allocation of funds received for use within the  
679 state. A minimum of 75 percent of any funds received pursuant to  
680 a declared disaster must be distributed for use by the

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681 subrecipients in the counties specified in the Presidential  
682 Disaster Declaration for that disaster. However, a subrecipient  
683 may elect to share some or all of its allocation with the  
684 division to be used for projects benefiting the region in which  
685 the subrecipient is located.

686 (3) The division and subrecipients shall consider projects  
687 that fulfill the following purposes when adopting mitigation  
688 strategies and plans and applying for funds under the grant  
689 program:

690 (a) Reducing shelter space deficits through retrofitting  
691 of existing shelters and hardening of public buildings that are  
692 not schools. Reducing deficits in shelter space intended to  
693 accommodate individuals with special needs must be prioritized  
694 before addressing deficits in other types of shelter space.  
695 Additionally, general population shelters which are retrofitted  
696 must also account for federally accessibility standards and  
697 state accessibility standards in part I of ch. 553.

698 (b) Mitigating impacts to public infrastructure, including  
699 roads, bridges, and stormwater, water, and sewer systems, to  
700 enhance resistance to natural hazards and prevent and reduce  
701 losses.

702 (c) Mitigating impacts to school facilities which will  
703 reduce future disaster losses and make the facilities more  
704 resistant to natural hazards.

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705 (d) Retrofitting of regional and local emergency  
706 management or operations centers.

707 (e) Other projects that the division may define by rule.

708 (4) The division may coordinate with other state agencies  
709 and political subdivisions to develop and implement innovative  
710 approaches to funding mitigation projects using grants under the  
711 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, including, but not limited to,  
712 combining funding received from multiple federal and state  
713 programs. The division, in cooperation with other state agencies  
714 that administer federal grant programs, shall ensure that:

715 (a) Projects funded through multiple programs comply with  
716 all applicable federal and state requirements of the respective  
717 programs under which funding was received.

718 (b) Funding is used for projects in the geographic areas  
719 specified in the grant of funding.

720 (5) A fiscally constrained county may request that the  
721 division administer the grant for such county. A fiscally  
722 constrained county may request additional assistance from the  
723 division in preparing applications for grants and developing a  
724 structure for implementing, monitoring the execution of, and  
725 closing out projects.

726 (6) The division shall adopt rules to implement this  
727 section.

728 **Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section**  
729 **252.373, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

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730 252.373 Allocation of funds; rules.—

731 (2) The division shall allocate funds from the Emergency  
732 Management, Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund to local  
733 emergency management agencies and programs pursuant to criteria  
734 specified in rule. Such rules shall include, but are not limited  
735 to:

736 (a) Requiring that, at a minimum, a local emergency  
737 management agency either:

738 1. Have a program director who works at least 40 hours a  
739 week in that capacity; or

740 2. If the county has fewer than 75,000 population or is  
741 party to an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement  
742 entered into pursuant to s. 252.38(3)(c) ~~s. 252.38(3)(b)~~, that  
743 is recognized by the Governor by executive order or rule, have  
744 an emergency management coordinator who works at least 20 hours  
745 a week in that capacity.

746 **Section 19. Present paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection**  
747 **(3) of section 252.38, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as**  
748 **paragraphs (b) and (c), respectively, a new paragraph (a) is**  
749 **added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1) is**  
750 **amended, to read:**

751 252.38 Emergency management powers of political  
752 subdivisions.—Safeguarding the life and property of its citizens  
753 is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each  
754 political subdivision of the state.

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755 (1) COUNTIES.—

756 (a) In order to provide effective and orderly governmental  
757 control and coordination of emergency operations in emergencies  
758 within the scope of ss. 252.31-252.90, each county within this  
759 state shall be within the jurisdiction of, and served by, the  
760 division. Except as otherwise provided in ss. 252.31-252.90,  
761 each local emergency management agency shall have jurisdiction  
762 over and serve an entire county. Unless part of an  
763 interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into  
764 pursuant to paragraph (3) (c) ~~(3) (b)~~ which is recognized by the  
765 Governor by executive order or rule, each county must establish  
766 and maintain such an emergency management agency and shall  
767 develop a county emergency management plan and program that is  
768 coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive  
769 emergency management plan and program. Counties that are part of  
770 an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered  
771 into pursuant to paragraph (3) (c) ~~(3) (b)~~ which is recognized by  
772 the Governor by executive order or rule shall cooperatively  
773 develop an emergency management plan and program that is  
774 coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive  
775 emergency management plan and program.

776 (3) EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT POWERS; POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.—

777 (a) Each political subdivision shall notify the division  
778 on or before May 1 each year of the person designated as the  
779 emergency contact for the political subdivision and his or her

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780 alternate and of any changes in persons so designated  
781 thereafter. For a county, the emergency contact must be the  
782 county emergency management director.

783 **Section 20. Section 252.381, Florida Statutes, is created**  
784 **to read:**

785 252.381 Information related to natural emergencies;  
786 poststorm county and municipal permitting; operations.—

787 (1) Each county and municipality must post on its publicly  
788 accessible website:

789 (a) A frequently asked questions web page related to  
790 natural emergency response, emergency preparedness, and public  
791 relief for residents following an emergency. The web page must  
792 answer questions concerning resident evacuations; safety tips;  
793 generator, food and drinking water, and wastewater and  
794 stormwater safety; damage assessment; debris cleanup; accessing  
795 assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and  
796 this state; building recovery; natural emergency guidance;  
797 applicable laws; and what to do before, during, and after an  
798 emergency.

799 (b) A disaster supply list and a list of emergency  
800 shelters.

801 (c) Links to information about flood zones.

802 (d) A checklist for residents explaining next steps to  
803 take during postdisaster recovery.

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804 (e) Information specific to persons with disabilities,  
805 including but not limited to, guidelines for special needs  
806 shelter registration; an explanation of how to register for  
807 special needs shelters and where to obtain assistance with that  
808 process; guidelines as to the level of care that is or is not  
809 provided at a special needs shelter as well as situations when  
810 either a general population shelter or hospital should be  
811 considered; and any other post disaster assistance or resources  
812 available to affected persons with disabilities impacted by a  
813 disaster.

814 (2) Each county and municipality shall develop a poststorm  
815 permitting plan to expedite recovery and rebuilding by providing  
816 for special building permit and inspection procedures after a  
817 hurricane or tropical storm. The plan must, at a minimum:

818 (a) Ensure sufficient personnel are prepared and available  
819 to expeditiously manage postdisaster building inspection,  
820 permitting, and enforcement tasks. The plan must anticipate  
821 conditions that would necessitate supplemental personnel for  
822 such tasks and address methods for fulfilling such personnel  
823 needs, including through mutual aid agreements as authorized in  
824 s. 252.40, other arrangements, such as those with private sector  
825 contractors, or supplemental state or federal funding. The plan  
826 must include training requirements and protocols for  
827 supplemental personnel to ensure compliance with local

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828 floodplain management requirements that apply within the county  
829 or municipality.

830 (b) Account for multiple or alternate locations where  
831 building permit services may be offered in person to the public  
832 following a hurricane or tropical storm during regular business  
833 hours.

834 (c) Specify a protocol to expedite permitting procedures  
835 and, if practicable, for the waiver or reduction of applicable  
836 fees in accordance with and in addition to the procedures and  
837 waivers provided for under s. 553.7922. The plan must identify  
838 the types of permits that are frequently requested following a  
839 hurricane or tropical storm and methods to expedite the  
840 processing of such permits.

841 (d) Specify procedures and resources necessary to promote  
842 expeditious debris removal following a hurricane or tropical  
843 storm.

844 (3)(a) Each county and municipality shall publish on its  
845 website a hurricane and tropical storm recovery permitting guide  
846 for residential and commercial property owners. The guide must  
847 describe:

848 1. The types of poststorm repairs that require a permit  
849 and applicable fees.

850 2. The types of poststorm repairs that do not require a  
851 permit.

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852 3. The poststorm permit application process and specific  
853 modifications the county or municipality commonly makes to  
854 expedite the process, including the physical locations where  
855 permitting services will be offered.

856 4. Local requirements for rebuilding specific to the  
857 county or municipality, including elevation requirements  
858 following substantial damage and substantial improvement  
859 pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and any  
860 local amendments to the building code.

861 (b) As soon as practicable following a hurricane or  
862 tropical storm, a county or municipality within the area for  
863 which a state of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36 for such  
864 hurricane or tropical storm is declared shall publish updates on  
865 its website to the information required under paragraph (a)  
866 which are specific to such storm, including any permitting fee  
867 waivers or reductions.

868 (4) For 180 days after a state of emergency is declared  
869 pursuant to s. 252.36 for a hurricane or tropical storm, a  
870 county or municipality within the area for which the state of  
871 emergency is declared may not increase building permit or  
872 inspection fees.

873 (5) No later than May 1, 2026, each county and  
874 municipality must provide an online option for receiving,  
875 reviewing, and accessing substantial damage and substantial  
876 improvement letters. The county or municipality must allow

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877 homeowners to provide an e-mail address where they can receive  
878 digital copies of such letters.

879 (6) As soon as reasonably practicable following the  
880 landfall and passage of a hurricane or tropical storm, each  
881 county and municipality that has experienced a direct impact  
882 from a natural emergency must use its best efforts to open a  
883 permitting office at which residents can access government  
884 services for at least 40 hours per week.

885 (7) Beginning October 1, 2025, emergency management  
886 personnel of a county or municipality, and individuals who are  
887 designated to perform key roles in postdisaster response for a  
888 county or municipality, must complete the training provided by  
889 the division pursuant to s. 252.35 every 2 years.

890 **Section 21. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 252.385,**  
891 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

892 252.385 Public shelter space; public records exemption.—

893 (2)~~(a)~~ The division shall administer a program to survey  
894 existing schools, universities, community colleges, and other  
895 state-owned, municipally owned, and county-owned public  
896 buildings and any private facility that the owner, in writing,  
897 agrees to provide for use as a public hurricane evacuation  
898 shelter to identify those that are appropriately designed and  
899 located to serve as such shelters. The owners of the facilities  
900 must be given the opportunity to participate in the surveys. The  
901 state university boards of trustees, district school boards,

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902 community college boards of trustees, and the Department of  
903 Education are responsible for coordinating and implementing the  
904 survey of public schools, universities, and community colleges  
905 with the division or the local emergency management agency.

906 ~~(b) By January 31 of each even-numbered year, the division~~  
907 ~~shall prepare and submit a statewide emergency shelter plan to~~  
908 ~~the Governor and Cabinet for approval, subject to the~~  
909 ~~requirements for approval in s. 1013.37(2). The emergency~~  
910 ~~shelter plan must project, for each of the next 5 years, the~~  
911 ~~hurricane shelter needs of the state, including periods of time~~  
912 ~~during which a concurrent public health emergency may~~  
913 ~~necessitate more space for each individual to accommodate~~  
914 ~~physical distancing. In addition to information on the general~~  
915 ~~shelter needs throughout this state, the plan must identify the~~  
916 ~~general location and square footage of special needs shelters,~~  
917 ~~by regional planning council region. The plan must also include~~  
918 ~~information on the availability of shelters that accept pets.~~  
919 ~~The Department of Health shall assist the division in~~  
920 ~~determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space~~  
921 ~~and the adequacy of facilities to meet the needs of persons with~~  
922 ~~special needs based on information from the registries of~~  
923 ~~persons with special needs and other information.~~

924 (3) (a) The division shall annually provide by October 15  
925 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of  
926 the House of Representatives a report that includes, and the

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927 ~~Governor~~ a list of facilities recommended to be retrofitted  
928 using state funds. State funds should be maximized and targeted  
929 to projects in counties ~~regional planning council regions~~ with  
930 hurricane evacuation shelter deficits. Additionally, the  
931 division shall prioritize on the list of recommended facilities  
932 other state-owned, municipal-owned, and county-owned public  
933 buildings, other than schools, for retrofitting using state  
934 funds. The owner or lessee of a public hurricane evacuation  
935 shelter that is included on the list of facilities recommended  
936 for retrofitting is not required to perform any recommended  
937 improvements.

938 (b) The report required in paragraph (a) must include a  
939 statewide emergency shelter plan that must project, for each of  
940 the next 5 years, the hurricane shelter needs of the state. In  
941 addition to information on the general shelter needs throughout  
942 this state, the plan must identify, by county, the general  
943 location and square footage of special needs shelters. The plan  
944 must also include information on the availability of shelters  
945 that accept pets. The Department of Health and the Agency for  
946 Persons with Disabilities shall assist the division in  
947 determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space,  
948 the estimated need for general shelter space to accommodate  
949 persons with developmental disabilities, including, but not  
950 limited to, autism, and the adequacy of facilities to meet the  
951 needs of persons with special needs based on information from

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952 the registries of persons with special needs and other  
953 information.

954 **Section 22. Section 252.421, Florida Statutes, is created**  
955 **to read:**

956 252.421 Management of roadway debris related to natural  
957 emergencies.—The division shall coordinate with fiscally  
958 constrained counties, as described in s. 218.67(1), included in  
959 a declared state of emergency for a Category 3 or higher  
960 hurricane and the Department of Transportation to provide such  
961 counties with state resources to remove debris from roadways,  
962 including roadways that are publicly accessible but not  
963 maintained by the county.

964 **Section 23. Section 252.422, Florida Statutes, is created**  
965 **to read:**

966 252.422 Restrictions on county or municipal regulations  
967 after a hurricane.—

968 (1) As used in this section, the term "impacted local  
969 government" means a county listed in a federal disaster  
970 declaration, or a municipality located within such a county,  
971 located entirely or partially within 100 miles of the track of a  
972 storm declared to be a hurricane by the National Hurricane  
973 Center, while the storm was categorized as a hurricane.

974 (2) For 1 year after a hurricane makes landfall, an  
975 impacted local government may not propose or adopt:



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976 (a) A moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or  
977 redevelopment of any property.

978 (b) A more restrictive or burdensome amendment to its  
979 comprehensive plan or land development regulations.

980 (c) A more restrictive or burdensome procedure concerning  
981 review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development  
982 permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are  
983 defined in s. 163.3164.

984 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a comprehensive plan  
985 amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan,  
986 development permit, or development order approved or adopted by  
987 an impacted local government before or after the effective date  
988 of this act may be enforced if:

989 (a) The associated application is initiated by a private  
990 party other than the impacted local government and the property  
991 that is the subject of the application is owned by the  
992 initiating private party;

993 (b) The proposed comprehensive plan amendment was  
994 submitted to reviewing agencies pursuant to s. 163.3184 before  
995 landfall; or

996 (c) The proposed comprehensive plan amendment or land  
997 development regulation is approved by the state land planning  
998 agency pursuant to s. 380.05.

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999 (4) (a) Any person may file suit against any impacted local  
1000 government for declaratory and injunctive relief to enforce this  
1001 section.

1002 (b) A county or municipality may request a determination  
1003 by a court of competent jurisdiction as to whether such action  
1004 violates this section. Upon such a request, the county or  
1005 municipality may not enforce the action until the court has  
1006 issued a preliminary or final judgment determining whether the  
1007 action violates this section.

1008 (c) Before a plaintiff may file suit, the plaintiff shall  
1009 notify the impacted local government by setting forth the facts  
1010 upon which the complaint or petition is based and the reasons  
1011 the impacted local government's action violates this section.  
1012 Upon receipt of the notice, the impacted local government shall  
1013 have 14 days to withdraw or revoke the action at issue or  
1014 otherwise declare it void. If the impacted local government does  
1015 not withdraw or revoke the action at issue within the time  
1016 prescribed, the plaintiff may file suit. The plaintiff shall be  
1017 entitled to entry of a preliminary injunction to prevent the  
1018 impacted local government from implementing the challenged  
1019 action during pendency of the litigation. In any action  
1020 instituted pursuant to this paragraph, the prevailing plaintiff  
1021 shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

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1022 (d) In any case brought under this section, any party is  
1023 entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011, and the  
1024 court shall advance the cause on the calendar.

1025 **Section 24. Section 252.505, Florida Statutes, is created**  
1026 **to read:**

1027 252.505 Breach of contract during emergency recovery  
1028 periods for natural emergencies.—Each state or local government  
1029 contract for goods or services related to emergency response for  
1030 a natural emergency entered into, renewed, or amended on or  
1031 after July 1, 2025, must include a provision that requires a  
1032 vendor or service provider that breaches such contract during an  
1033 emergency recovery period to pay actual and consequential  
1034 damages and a \$5,000 penalty. As used in this section, the term  
1035 "emergency recovery period" means a 1-year period that begins on  
1036 the date that the Governor initially declared a state of  
1037 emergency for a natural emergency.

1038 **Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 400.063, Florida**  
1039 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1040 400.063 Resident protection.—

1041 (1) The Health Care Trust Fund shall be used for the  
1042 purpose of collecting and disbursing funds generated from the  
1043 license fees and administrative fines as provided for in ss.  
1044 393.0673(5), 400.062(3), 400.121(2), and 400.23(8). Such funds  
1045 shall be for the sole purpose of paying for the appropriate  
1046 alternate placement, care, and treatment of residents who are

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1047 removed from a facility licensed under this part or a facility  
1048 specified in s. 393.0678(1) in which the agency determines that  
1049 existing conditions or practices constitute an immediate danger  
1050 to the health, safety, or security of the residents. If the  
1051 agency determines that it is in the best interest of the health,  
1052 safety, or security of the residents to provide for an orderly  
1053 removal of the residents from the facility, the agency may  
1054 utilize such funds to maintain and care for the residents in the  
1055 facility pending removal and alternative placement. The  
1056 maintenance and care of the residents shall be under the  
1057 direction and control of a receiver appointed pursuant to s.  
1058 393.0678(1) or s. 400.126(1). However, funds may be expended in  
1059 an emergency upon a filing of a petition for a receiver, upon  
1060 the declaration of a state of local emergency pursuant to s.  
1061 252.38(3)(b)5. ~~s. 252.38(3)(a)5.~~, or upon a duly authorized  
1062 local order of evacuation of a facility by emergency personnel  
1063 to protect the health and safety of the residents.

1064 **Section 26. Subsection (7) of section 403.7071, Florida**  
1065 **Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that**  
1066 **section, to read:**

1067 403.7071 Management of storm-generated debris.—Solid waste  
1068 generated as a result of a storm event that is the subject of an  
1069 emergency order issued by the department may be managed as  
1070 follows:

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1071 (7) Unless otherwise specified in a contract or franchise  
1072 agreement between a local government and a private solid waste  
1073 or debris management service provider, a private solid waste or  
1074 debris management service provider is not required to collect  
1075 storm-generated yard trash, debris, or waste. Local governments  
1076 are authorized and encouraged to add an addendum to existing  
1077 contracts or franchise agreements for collection of storm-  
1078 generated debris.

1079 (8) (a) Each county and municipality shall apply to the  
1080 department for authorization of at least one debris management  
1081 site as described in subsection (2) and shall annually seek  
1082 preauthorization for any previously approved debris management  
1083 sites, as allowed by the department.

1084 (b) A municipality may jointly apply for authorization of  
1085 a debris management site with a county or at least one adjacent  
1086 municipality, if the parties develop and approve a memorandum of  
1087 understanding. Such memorandum must clearly outline the capacity  
1088 of the debris management site and location of the site relative  
1089 to each party. The memorandum of understanding must be approved  
1090 annually as part of the preauthorization process described in  
1091 paragraph (a).

1092 **Section 27. Section 489.1132, Florida Statutes, is created**  
1093 **to read:**

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1094 489.1132 Regulation of hoisting equipment used in  
1095 construction, demolition, or excavation work during a  
1096 hurricane.-

1097 (1) As used in this section, the term:

1098 (a) "Hoisting equipment" means power-operated cranes,  
1099 derricks, and hoists used in construction, demolition, or  
1100 excavation work that are regulated by the Occupational Safety  
1101 and Health Administration.

1102 (b) "Mobile crane" means a type of hoisting equipment  
1103 incorporating a cable-suspended latticed boom or hydraulic  
1104 telescoping boom designed to be moved between operating  
1105 locations by transport over a roadway. The term does not include  
1106 a mobile crane with a boom length of less than 25 feet or a  
1107 maximum rated load capacity of less than 15,000 pounds.

1108 (c) "Tower crane" means a type of hoisting equipment using  
1109 a vertical mast or tower to support a working boom in an  
1110 elevated position if the working boom can rotate to move loads  
1111 laterally either by rotating at the top of the mast or tower or  
1112 by the rotation of the mast or tower itself, whether the mast or  
1113 tower base is fixed in one location or ballasted and moveable  
1114 between locations.

1115 (2) (a) When a tower crane or mobile crane is located on a  
1116 worksite, a hurricane preparedness plan for the crane must be  
1117 available for inspection at the worksite.

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1118 (b) In preparation for a hurricane, hoisting equipment  
1119 must be secured in the following manner no later than 24 hours  
1120 before the impacts of the hurricane are anticipated to begin:

1121 1. All hoisting equipment must be secured in compliance  
1122 with manufacturer recommendations relating to hurricane and  
1123 high-wind events, including any recommendations relating to the  
1124 placement, use, and removal of advertising banners and rigging.

1125 2. Tower crane turntables must be lubricated before the  
1126 event.

1127 3. Fixed booms on mobile cranes must be laid down whenever  
1128 feasible.

1129 4. Booms on hydraulic cranes must be retracted and stored.

1130 5. The counterweights of any hoists must be locked below  
1131 the top tie-in.

1132 6. Tower cranes must be set in the weathervane position.

1133 7. All rigging must be removed from hoist blocks.

1134 8. All power at the base of tower cranes must be  
1135 disconnected.

1136 (3) A person licensed under this part who intentionally  
1137 violates this section is subject to discipline under ss. 455.227  
1138 and 489.129.

1139 **Section 28. Subsection (6) of section 553.902, Florida**  
1140 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1141 553.902 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

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1142 (6) "Renovated building" means a residential or  
1143 nonresidential building undergoing alteration that varies or  
1144 changes insulation, HVAC systems, water heating systems, or  
1145 exterior envelope conditions, if the estimated cost of  
1146 renovation exceeds 30 percent of the assessed value of the  
1147 structure. However, if the alteration is a result of a natural  
1148 disaster that is the subject of a declaration of a state of  
1149 emergency by the Governor, the estimated cost of renovation must  
1150 exceed 75 percent of the fair market value of the building prior  
1151 to the natural disaster.

1152 **Section 29.** The Division of Emergency Management shall  
1153 consult with local governments, the Department of Business and  
1154 Professional Regulation, the Department of Environmental  
1155 Protection, and any other appropriate agencies to develop  
1156 recommendations for statutory changes necessary to streamline  
1157 the permitting process for repairing and rebuilding structures  
1158 damaged during natural emergencies. By July 1, 2026, the  
1159 division shall provide a report containing such recommendations  
1160 to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
1161 Representatives.

1162 **Section 30.** (1) Each county listed in the Federal  
1163 Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Debby (DR-4806), Hurricane  
1164 Helene (DR-4828), or Hurricane Milton (DR-4834), and each  
1165 municipality within one of those counties, may not propose or  
1166 adopt any moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or

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1167 redevelopment of any property damaged by such hurricanes;  
1168 propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome amendments to  
1169 its comprehensive plan or land development regulations; or  
1170 propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures  
1171 concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan,  
1172 development permit, or development order, to the extent that  
1173 those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before  
1174 October 1, 2027, and any such moratorium or restrictive or  
1175 burdensome comprehensive plan amendment, land development  
1176 regulation, or procedure shall be null and void ab initio. This  
1177 subsection applies retroactively to August 1, 2024.

1178 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), any comprehensive plan  
1179 amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan,  
1180 development permit, or development order approved or adopted by  
1181 a county or municipality before or after the effective date of  
1182 this act may be enforced if:

1183 (a) The associated application is initiated by a private  
1184 party other than the county or municipality.

1185 (b) The property that is the subject of the application is  
1186 owned by the initiating private party.

1187 (3) (a) A resident of or the owner of a business in a  
1188 county or municipality may bring a civil action for declaratory  
1189 and injunctive relief against the county or municipality for a  
1190 violation of this section. Pending adjudication of the action  
1191 and upon filing of a complaint showing a violation of this

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1192 section, the resident or business owner is entitled to a  
1193 preliminary injunction against the county or municipality  
1194 preventing implementation of the moratorium or the comprehensive  
1195 plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure. If  
1196 such civil action is successful, the resident or business owner  
1197 is entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

1198 (b) Attorney fees and costs and damages may not be awarded  
1199 pursuant to this subsection if:

1200 1. The resident or business owner provides the governing  
1201 body of the county or municipality written notice that a  
1202 proposed or enacted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment,  
1203 land development regulation, or procedure is in violation of  
1204 this section; and

1205 2. The governing body of the county or municipality  
1206 withdraws the proposed moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment,  
1207 land development regulation, or procedure within 14 days; or, in  
1208 the case of an adopted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment,  
1209 land development regulation, or procedure, the governing body of  
1210 a county or municipality notices an intent to repeal within 14  
1211 days after receipt of the notice and repeals the moratorium,  
1212 comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or  
1213 procedure within 14 days thereafter.

1214 (4) This section expires June 30, 2028.

Amendment No.

1215           **Section 31.** The Division of Law Revision is directed to  
1216 replace the phrase "the effective date of this act" wherever it  
1217 occurs in this act with the date this act becomes a law.

1218           **Section 32.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
1219 law.

1220  
1221 -----  
1222                           **T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T**

1223           Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:  
1224           An act relating to emergencies; amending s. 83.63,  
1225           F.S.; requiring certain tenants to be given specified  
1226           opportunities or notice; amending s. 101.733, F.S.;  
1227           removing provisions relating to an elections emergency  
1228           contingency plan; creating s. 101.7325, F.S.;  
1229           authorizing certain supervisors of elections to submit  
1230           a plan to request to take specified actions under  
1231           certain circumstances; requiring such supervisors to  
1232           use specified methods to inform affected voters of  
1233           election changes; requiring the Secretary of State to  
1234           approve or deny such requests within a specified  
1235           period; creating s. 101.735, F.S.; requiring the  
1236           Division of Elections to develop a statewide election  
1237           emergency contingency plan for a specified purpose;  
1238           requiring such plan to include certain procedures;  
1239           requiring supervisors of elections to develop a local

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1240 election emergency contingency plan in consultation  
1241 with certain officials; requiring the plan to be  
1242 submitted to the division for approval by a certain  
1243 date; requiring the division to make a certain  
1244 determination by a specified date; requiring the  
1245 division to adopt rules; creating s. 101.736, F.S.;  
1246 defining the term "tabletop exercise"; requiring the  
1247 Secretary of State, in coordination with supervisors  
1248 of elections, to develop an election emergency  
1249 training program; requiring the Secretary of State to  
1250 convene a workgroup for a certain purpose by a  
1251 specified date of every odd-numbered year; providing  
1252 requirements for the workgroup; requiring the results  
1253 of the workgroup to be used in a specified manner;  
1254 creating s. 163.31795, F.S.; defining the terms  
1255 "cumulative substantial improvement period" and "local  
1256 government"; requiring local governments that are  
1257 participating in a specified insurance program to  
1258 adopt certain cumulative substantial improvement  
1259 periods; amending s. 163.31801, F.S.; prohibiting  
1260 certain entities from assessing impact fees for  
1261 specified replacement structures; providing an  
1262 exception; amending s. 193.155, F.S.; providing that  
1263 repair and maintenance of specified property is not a  
1264 change, an addition, or an improvement under certain

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1265 | circumstances; revising the square footage limitations  
1266 | for certain changes, additions, and improvements to  
1267 | damaged property; amending s. 215.559, F.S.; removing  
1268 | a reference to a certain report; revising public  
1269 | hurricane shelter funding prioritization requirements  
1270 | for the Division of Emergency Management; amending s.  
1271 | 250.375, F.S.; authorizing certain servicemembers to  
1272 | provide medical care in specified circumstances;  
1273 | amending s. 252.35, F.S.; revising requirements for  
1274 | the state comprehensive emergency management plan;  
1275 | requiring such plan to include an update on the status  
1276 | of certain emergency management capabilities;  
1277 | requiring the division to collaborate with the  
1278 | Department of Health; revising responsibilities of the  
1279 | division; requiring the division to develop a certain  
1280 | template; revising items required to be included in a  
1281 | specified inventory; removing a specified reporting  
1282 | requirement; amending s. 252.355, F.S.; authorizing  
1283 | the Department of Veterans' Affairs to provide certain  
1284 | information to specified clients or their caregivers;  
1285 | requiring the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to  
1286 | enter into a memoranda of understanding with the  
1287 | Department of Elder Affairs and with the Agency for  
1288 | Persons with Disabilities to provide certain  
1289 | information to specified persons; amending s. 252.359,

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1290 F.S.; revising the manner in which the division  
1291 facilitates transportation of essentials before and  
1292 after an emergency; requiring local law enforcement to  
1293 cooperate with the division to ensure the availability  
1294 of essentials; amending s. 252.3611, F.S.; directing  
1295 specified entities to submit specified contracts and  
1296 reports to the Legislature under specified conditions;  
1297 requiring that such contracts be posted on a specified  
1298 secure contract system; requiring the division to  
1299 report annually to the Legislature specified  
1300 information on expenditures relating to emergencies;  
1301 providing requirements for such report; amending s.  
1302 252.365, F.S.; requiring agency heads to notify the  
1303 Governor and the division of the person designated as  
1304 the emergency coordination officer annually by a  
1305 specified date; amending s. 252.37, F.S.; requiring  
1306 the division to notify the Legislature of its intent  
1307 to accept or apply for federal funds under certain  
1308 circumstances; requiring the division to take steps to  
1309 maximize the availability and expedite the  
1310 distribution of financial assistance from the Federal  
1311 Government to state and local agencies; requiring that  
1312 such steps include the standardization and  
1313 streamlining of the application process for federal  
1314 financial assistance and the provision of assistance

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Bill No. CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1315 to applicants for a specified purpose; requiring the  
1316 division to use certain federal funds to implement  
1317 such requirements; creating s. 252.3713, F.S.;  
1318 requiring the division to administer the Hazard  
1319 Mitigation Grant Program; authorizing the division to  
1320 retain a specified percentage of the funds for use  
1321 within this state; requiring that the remaining  
1322 percentage be distributed for use by certain  
1323 recipients; authorizing subrecipients to make a  
1324 certain election for a specified use; requiring the  
1325 consideration of certain projects; authorizing the  
1326 division to coordinate with specified entities under  
1327 certain circumstances; requiring the division to  
1328 ensure that certain requirements are met and certain  
1329 projects are funded; authorizing fiscally constrained  
1330 counties to request that the division administer the  
1331 grant for such a county; authorizing such counties to  
1332 request certain assistance from the division;  
1333 requiring the division to adopt rules; amending s.  
1334 252.373, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending  
1335 s. 252.38, F.S.; requiring political subdivisions to  
1336 annually provide specified notification to the  
1337 division before a specified date; creating s. 252.381,  
1338 F.S.; requiring counties and municipalities to post  
1339 certain information on their websites; requiring

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Amendment No.

1340 counties and municipalities to develop a poststorm  
1341 permitting plan; providing requirements for such plan;  
1342 requiring counties and municipalities to publish on  
1343 their websites a specified storm recovery guide and  
1344 updates to such guide; prohibiting certain counties  
1345 and municipalities from increasing building permit or  
1346 inspection fees within a specified timeframe;  
1347 requiring certain counties and municipalities to use  
1348 their best efforts to open a permitting office for a  
1349 minimum number of hours per week; requiring entities  
1350 allow individuals to receive specified letters  
1351 electronically by a certain time; requiring specified  
1352 individuals to complete certain training every 2 years  
1353 beginning on a specified date; amending s. 252.385,  
1354 F.S.; revising reporting requirements for the  
1355 division; revising requirements for a specified list;  
1356 requiring the Department of Health and the Agency for  
1357 Persons with Disabilities to assist the division with  
1358 certain determinations; creating s. 252.421, F.S.;  
1359 requiring the division to coordinate with certain  
1360 counties for a specified purpose; creating s. 252.422,  
1361 F.S.; defining the term "impacted local government";  
1362 prohibiting impacted local governments from proposing  
1363 or adopting certain moratoriums, amendments, or  
1364 procedures for a specified timeframe; authorizing the

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Amendment No.

1365 enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and  
1366 orders under certain circumstances; authorizing any  
1367 person to file suit to enforce specified provisions;  
1368 authorizing counties and municipalities to request a  
1369 specified determination by a court; prohibiting  
1370 counties and municipalities from taking certain  
1371 actions until the court has issued a preliminary or  
1372 final judgment; requiring plaintiffs to provide  
1373 certain notification before filing suit; requiring  
1374 impacted local governments to take certain actions  
1375 upon receipt of such notification or a suit may be  
1376 filed; providing for reasonable attorney fees and  
1377 costs; authorizing the use of a certain summary  
1378 procedure; requiring the court to advance the cause on  
1379 the calendar; creating s. 252.505, F.S.; requiring  
1380 certain contracts to include a specified provision;  
1381 defining the term "emergency recovery period";  
1382 amending s. 400.063, F.S.; conforming a cross-  
1383 reference; amending s. 403.7071, F.S.; providing that  
1384 local governments are authorized and encouraged to add  
1385 certain addendums to certain contracts and agreements;  
1386 requiring counties and municipalities to apply to the  
1387 Department of Environmental Protection for  
1388 authorization to designate at least one debris  
1389 management site; authorizing municipalities to apply

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1390 jointly with a county or adjacent municipality for  
1391 authorization of a debris management site if such  
1392 entities approve a memorandum of understanding;  
1393 providing requirements for such memorandum; creating  
1394 s. 489.1132, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring a  
1395 hurricane preparedness plan to be available for  
1396 inspection at certain worksites; requiring certain  
1397 equipment to be secured in a specified manner no later  
1398 than 24 hours before the impacts of a hurricane are  
1399 anticipated to begin; providing penalties; requiring  
1400 the division to consult with specified entities to  
1401 develop certain recommendations and provide a report  
1402 to the Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting  
1403 certain counties from proposing or adopting certain  
1404 moratoriums, amendments, or procedures for a specified  
1405 timeframe; declaring that such moratoriums,  
1406 amendments, or procedures are null and void; providing  
1407 for retroactive application; authorizing the  
1408 enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and  
1409 orders under certain circumstances; authorizing  
1410 certain residents and business owners to bring a civil  
1411 action for declaratory and injunctive relief against a  
1412 county or municipality that violates specified  
1413 provisions; providing for reasonable attorney fees and  
1414 costs under specified circumstances; providing for

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1415 | future expiration; amending s. 553.902, F.S.; amending  
1416 | a definition; providing a directive to the Division of  
1417 | Law Revision; providing an effective date.