

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

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WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)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

1 Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: State Affairs Committee
2 Representative McFarland offered the following:

3
4 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

5 Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

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

8 83.63 Casualty damage.—If the premises are damaged or
9 destroyed other than by the wrongful or negligent acts of the
10 tenant so that the enjoyment of the premises is substantially
11 impaired:7

12 (1) The tenant may terminate the rental agreement and
13 immediately vacate the premises. The tenant may vacate the part
14 of the premises rendered unusable by the casualty, in which case
15 the tenant's liability for rent shall be reduced by the fair
16 rental value of that part of the premises damaged or destroyed.

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17 If the rental agreement is terminated, the landlord shall comply
18 with s. 83.49(3).

19 (2) The tenant must be given:

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

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

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

27 101.733 Emergency suspension or delay of an election
28 ~~emergency; purpose; elections emergency contingency plan.-~~

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

40 ~~(3) The Division of Elections of the Department of State~~
41 ~~shall adopt, by rule, an elections emergency contingency plan,~~

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42 ~~which shall contain goals and policies that give specific~~
43 ~~direction to state and local elections officials when an~~
44 ~~election has been suspended or delayed due to an emergency. The~~
45 ~~contingency plan shall be statewide in scope and shall address,~~
46 ~~but not be limited to, the following concerns:~~

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

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

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

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

66 101.7325 Election emergency.—

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

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

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

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91 practicable, be geographically located so as to provide all
92 voters in the area with an equal opportunity to cast a ballot.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

131 (2) Each supervisor who submits a request pursuant to
132 subsection (1) must, to the extent practicable, submit all such
133 requests at once. Supervisors may submit revised or additional
134 requests should the emergency situation in his or her affected
135 county change. The Secretary of State must approve or deny the
136 requests in writing within 36 hours after receipt. In deciding
137 whether to approve the requests, the Secretary must consider the
138 severity of the natural emergency, the damage to the impacted
139 area, the extent of voter displacement, whether voters in an

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140 affected area have an equal opportunity to cast a ballot, and
141 any factor that could impede voter access to polling places,
142 early voting sites, or supervisor offices. If the Secretary of
143 State fails to approve or deny a request within the 36-hour
144 period, the request is deemed approved. The Secretary of State
145 must publish each approval and denial on the department's
146 website.

147 (3) The supervisor must publish each approval and denial
148 pursuant to subsection (2) on its website and also must use
149 print and broadcast media, social media, Internet websites,
150 polling place signage, and any other method necessary to inform
151 affected voters of any changes to elections made under this
152 section.

153 **Section 4. Section 101.735, Florida Statutes, is created**
154 **to read:**

155 101.735 Election emergency contingency plans.—

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

160 (a) Ensure that necessary parties are notified of any
161 changes impacting an election that has been suspended, delayed,
162 rescheduled, or otherwise affected by an emergency. As used in
163 this paragraph, necessary parties include proper authorities,

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164 the electorate, the media, poll workers, and polling place
165 custodians.

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

172 (c) Determine the safety of existing polling places or
173 designate additional polling places in coordination with the
174 appropriate emergency management officials.

175 (d) Release and certify returns to the division for
176 elections suspended, delayed, rescheduled, or otherwise affected
177 by an emergency.

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

183 (2) Each supervisor shall develop, in consultation with
184 local emergency management officials, a local election emergency
185 contingency plan. The contingency plan must be submitted to the
186 division for approval by May 1 of every odd-numbered year. The
187 division must determine whether the local election emergency
188 contingency plan is sufficient no later than May 30. The

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189 division shall adopt rules to implement this subsection,
190 including the creation of standard criteria for determining the
191 sufficiency of local election emergency contingency plans.

192 **Section 5. Section 101.736, Florida Statutes, is created**
193 **to read:**

194 101.736 Election emergency training; best practices.—

195 (1) As used in this section, the term "tabletop exercise"
196 means a session in which participants are guided through
197 possible scenarios and discuss their roles and responsibilities
198 if such a scenario occurs, as well as how they would respond to
199 such a scenario.

200 (2) The Secretary of State, in coordination with
201 supervisors, shall develop an election emergency training
202 program. The training is required for newly elected or appointed
203 supervisors and any critical staff, as determined by a
204 supervisor. The Secretary of State shall update such training at
205 least once every 4 years.

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

209 (a) The workgroup must include at least 10 current
210 supervisors.

211 (b) The workgroup must participate in tabletop exercises
212 involving election emergencies.

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

215 (a) Incorporate practices applicable to all counties into
216 the statewide election emergency contingency plan under s.
217 101.735(1).

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

221 **Section 6. Section 163.31795, Florida Statutes, is created**
222 **to read:**

223 163.31795 Participation in the National Flood Insurance
224 Program.—

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

226 (a) "Cumulative substantial improvement period" means the
227 period during which an aggregate of improvements or repairs are
228 considered for purposes of determining substantial improvement
229 as defined in s. 161.54(12).

230 (b) "Local government" has the same meaning as in s.
231 163.2514.

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

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

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237 163.31801 Impact fees; short title; intent; minimum
238 requirements; audits; challenges.—

239 (14) A local government, school district, or special
240 district may not assess an impact fee for the reconstruction or
241 replacement of a previously existing structure if the
242 replacement structure is of the same land use as the original
243 structure and does not increase the impact on public facilities
244 beyond that of the original structure. However, if the
245 replacement structure increases the demand on public facilities
246 due to a significant increase in size, intensity, or capacity of
247 use, a local government, school district, or special district
248 may assess an impact fee in an amount proportional to the
249 difference in the demand between the replacement structure and
250 the original structure. Any such fee must be reasonably
251 connected to, or have a rational nexus with, the need for
252 additional capital facilities and the increased impact generated
253 by the reconstruction or replacement of a previously existing
254 structure.

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

257 193.155 Homestead assessments.—Homestead property shall be
258 assessed at just value as of January 1, 1994. Property receiving
259 the homestead exemption after January 1, 1994, shall be assessed
260 at just value as of January 1 of the year in which the property

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261 receives the exemption unless the provisions of subsection (8)
262 apply.

263 (4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) and s. 193.624,
264 changes, additions, or improvements to homestead property shall
265 be assessed at just value as of the first January 1 after the
266 changes, additions, or improvements are substantially completed.
267 Maintenance or repair of the homestead property, including roof
268 or window replacement, may not be considered to be a change, an
269 addition, or an improvement under this subsection.

270 (b)1. Changes, additions, or improvements that replace all
271 or a portion of homestead property, including ancillary
272 improvements, damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity
273 shall be assessed upon substantial completion as provided in
274 this paragraph. Such assessment must be calculated using the
275 homestead property's assessed value as of the January 1
276 immediately before the date on which the damage or destruction
277 was sustained, subject to the assessment limitations in
278 subsections (1) and (2), when:

279 a. The square footage of the homestead property as changed
280 or improved does not exceed 130 ~~110~~ percent of the square
281 footage of the homestead property before the damage or
282 destruction; or

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

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286 When a homestead property is elevated above the base flood
287 elevation within a special flood hazard area, the square footage
288 underneath the homestead property that is used only for parking,
289 storage, or access is not included when determining the total
290 square footage of the homestead property as changed or improved
291 under this subparagraph.

292 2. The homestead property's assessed value must be
293 increased by the just value of that portion of the changed or
294 improved homestead property which is in excess of 130 ~~110~~
295 percent of the square footage of the homestead property before
296 the damage or destruction or of that portion exceeding 2,000
297 ~~1,500~~ square feet.

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

303 4. Changes, additions, or improvements assessed pursuant
304 to this paragraph must be reassessed pursuant to subsection (1)
305 in subsequent years. This paragraph applies to changes,
306 additions, or improvements commenced within 5 years after the
307 January 1 following the damage or destruction of the homestead.

308 **Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section**
309 **215.559, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

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310 215.559 Hurricane Loss Mitigation Program.—A Hurricane
311 Loss Mitigation Program is established in the Division of
312 Emergency Management.

313 (1) The Legislature shall annually appropriate \$10 million
314 of the moneys authorized for appropriation under s.

315 215.555(7)(c) from the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund to the
316 division for the purposes set forth in this section. Of the
317 amount:

318 (b) Three million dollars in funds shall be used to
319 construct or retrofit facilities used as public hurricane
320 shelters. Each year the division shall prioritize the use of
321 these funds for projects included in the annual report ~~of the~~
322 ~~Shelter Development Report~~ prepared in accordance with s.
323 252.385(3). The division shall ~~must~~ give funding priority to
324 projects located in counties regional planning council regions
325 that have shelter deficits, projects that are publicly owned,
326 other than schools, and ~~to~~ projects that maximize the use of
327 state funds.

328 **Section 10. Section 250.375, Florida Statutes, is amended**
329 **to read:**

330 250.375 Medical officer authorization.—A servicemember
331 trained to provide medical care who is serving under the
332 direction of the Florida National Guard State Surgeon and is
333 assigned to a military duty position and authorized by the
334 Florida National Guard to provide medical care within the scope

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335 of the servicemember's professional licensure by virtue of such
336 duty position may provide such medical care to military
337 personnel and civilians within this state ~~physician who holds an~~
338 ~~active license to practice medicine in any state, a United~~
339 ~~States territory, or the District of Columbia,~~ while serving as
340 ~~a medical officer~~ with or in support of the Florida National
341 Guard, pursuant to federal or state orders, ~~may practice~~
342 ~~medicine on military personnel or civilians~~ during an emergency
343 or declared disaster ~~or during federal military training.~~

344 **Section 11. Paragraphs (y) through (dd) of subsection (2)**
345 **of section 252.35, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as**
346 **paragraphs (x) through (cc), respectively, and paragraphs (a),**
347 **(c), and (n) and present paragraph (x) of that subsection are**
348 **amended to read:**

349 252.35 Emergency management powers; Division of Emergency
350 Management.—

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

354 (a) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management
355 plan, which must ~~shall~~ be integrated into and coordinated with
356 the emergency management plans and programs of the Federal
357 Government. The division shall adopt the plan as a rule in
358 accordance with chapter 120. The plan must be implemented by a
359 continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency management

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360 program. The plan must contain provisions to ensure that the
361 state is prepared for emergencies and minor, major, and
362 catastrophic disasters, and the division shall work closely with
363 local governments and agencies and organizations with emergency
364 management responsibilities in preparing and maintaining the
365 plan. The state comprehensive emergency management plan must be
366 operations oriented and:

367 1. Include an evacuation component that includes specific
368 regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes
369 intergovernmental coordination of evacuation activities. This
370 component must, at a minimum: contain guidelines for lifting
371 tolls on state highways; ensure coordination pertaining to
372 evacuees crossing county lines; set forth procedures for
373 directing people caught on evacuation routes to safe shelter;
374 establish strategies for ensuring sufficient, reasonably priced
375 fueling locations along evacuation routes; and establish
376 policies and strategies for emergency medical evacuations.

377 2. Include a shelter component that includes specific
378 regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes
379 coordination of shelter activities between the public, private,
380 and nonprofit sectors. This component must, at a minimum:
381 contain strategies to ensure the availability of adequate public
382 shelter space in each county ~~region of the state~~; establish
383 strategies for refuge-of-last-resort programs; provide
384 strategies to assist local emergency management efforts to

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385 ensure that adequate staffing plans exist for all shelters,
386 including medical and security personnel; provide for a
387 postdisaster communications system for public shelters;
388 establish model shelter guidelines for operations, registration,
389 inventory, power generation capability, information management,
390 and staffing; and set forth policy guidance for sheltering
391 people with special needs.

392 3. Include a postdisaster response and recovery component
393 that includes specific regional and interregional planning
394 provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of
395 postdisaster response and recovery activities. This component
396 must provide for postdisaster response and recovery strategies
397 according to whether a disaster is minor, major, or
398 catastrophic. The postdisaster response and recovery component
399 must, at a minimum: establish the structure of the state's
400 postdisaster response and recovery organization; establish
401 procedures for activating the state's plan; set forth policies
402 used to guide postdisaster response and recovery activities;
403 describe the chain of command during the postdisaster response
404 and recovery period; describe initial and continuous
405 postdisaster response and recovery actions; identify the roles
406 and responsibilities of each involved agency and organization;
407 provide for a comprehensive communications plan; establish
408 procedures for coordinating and monitoring statewide mutual aid
409 agreements reimbursable under federal public disaster assistance

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410 programs; provide for rapid impact assessment teams; ensure the
411 availability of an effective statewide urban search and rescue
412 program coordinated with the fire services; ensure the existence
413 of a comprehensive statewide medical care and relief plan
414 administered by the Department of Health; and establish systems
415 for coordinating volunteers and accepting and distributing
416 donated funds and goods.

417 4. Include additional provisions addressing aspects of
418 preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation as determined
419 necessary by the division.

420 5. Address the need for coordinated and expeditious
421 deployment of state resources, including the Florida National
422 Guard. In the case of an imminent major disaster, procedures
423 should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard, and,
424 in the case of an imminent catastrophic disaster, procedures
425 should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard and
426 the United States Armed Forces.

427 6. Establish a system of communications and warning to
428 ensure that the state's population and emergency management
429 agencies are warned of developing emergency situations,
430 including public health emergencies, and can communicate
431 emergency response decisions.

432 7. Establish guidelines and schedules for annual exercises
433 that evaluate the ability of the state and its political
434 subdivisions to respond to minor, major, and catastrophic

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435 disasters and support local emergency management agencies. Such
436 exercises shall be coordinated with local governments and, to
437 the extent possible, the Federal Government.

438 8. Assign lead and support responsibilities to state
439 agencies and personnel for emergency support functions and other
440 support activities.

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

443 10. Include an update on the status of the emergency
444 management capabilities of the state and its political
445 subdivisions. The update must include the emergency management
446 capabilities related to public health emergencies, as determined
447 in collaboration with the Department of Health.

448
449 The complete state comprehensive emergency management plan must
450 be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
451 House of Representatives, and the Governor on February 1 of
452 every even-numbered year.

453 (c) Assist political subdivisions in preparing and
454 maintaining emergency management plans. Such assistance must
455 include the development of a template for comprehensive
456 emergency management plans, including plans for natural
457 disasters, and guidance on the development of mutual aid
458 agreements.

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459 (n) Implement training programs to maintain Florida's
460 status as a national leader in emergency management and improve
461 the ability of state and local emergency management personnel to
462 prepare and implement emergency management plans and programs.
463 This must ~~shall~~ include a continuous training program for
464 agencies and individuals who ~~that~~ will be called on to perform
465 key roles in state and local postdisaster response and recovery
466 efforts and for local government personnel on federal and state
467 postdisaster response and recovery strategies and procedures.
468 The division shall specify requirements for the minimum number
469 of training hours that county or municipal administrators,
470 county or city managers, county or municipal emergency
471 management directors, and county or municipal public works
472 directors or other officials responsible for the construction
473 and maintenance of public infrastructure must complete
474 biennially in addition to the training required pursuant to s.
475 252.38(1)(b). Such training may be provided by the division or,
476 for county personnel, by a foundation that is a not-for-profit
477 corporation under s. 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and
478 has a governing board that includes in its membership county
479 commissioners and professional county staff. If training is
480 provided by a foundation, such training must be approved by the
481 division.

482 ~~(x) Report biennially to the President of the Senate, the~~
483 ~~Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chief Justice of~~

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484 ~~the Supreme Court, and the Governor, no later than February 1 of~~
485 ~~every odd-numbered year, the status of the emergency management~~
486 ~~capabilities of the state and its political subdivisions. This~~
487 ~~report must include the emergency management capabilities~~
488 ~~related to public health emergencies, as determined in~~
489 ~~collaboration with the Department of Health.~~

490 **Section 12. Subsection (4) of section 252.355, Florida**
491 **Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (5), paragraph (b) of**
492 **subsection (2) is amended, and a new subsection (4) is added to**
493 **that section, to read:**

494 252.355 Registry of persons with special needs; notice;
495 registration program.—

496 (2) In order to ensure that all persons with special needs
497 may register, the division shall develop and maintain a special
498 needs shelter registration program. During a public health
499 emergency in which physical distancing is necessary, as
500 determined by the State Health Officer, the division must
501 maintain information on special needs shelter options that
502 mitigate the threat of the spread of infectious diseases.

503 (b) To assist in identifying persons with special needs,
504 home health agencies, hospices, nurse registries, home medical
505 equipment providers, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the
506 Department of Children and Families, the Department of Health,
507 the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of
508 Education, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the

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509 Department of Elderly Affairs, and memory disorder clinics
510 shall, and any physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter
511 459 and any pharmacy licensed under chapter 465 may, annually
512 provide registration information to all of their special needs
513 clients or their caregivers. The Florida Housing Finance
514 Corporation shall enter into memoranda of understanding with the
515 Department of Elderly Affairs and with the Agency for Persons
516 with Disabilities to ensure special needs registration
517 information is provided to residents of low-income senior
518 independent living properties and independent living properties
519 for persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities
520 funded by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, respectively.
521 The division shall develop a brochure that provides information
522 regarding special needs shelter registration procedures. The
523 brochure must be easily accessible on the division's website.
524 All appropriate agencies and community-based service providers,
525 including aging and disability resource centers, memory disorder
526 clinics, home health care providers, hospices, nurse registries,
527 and home medical equipment providers, shall, and any physician
528 licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 may, assist emergency
529 management agencies by annually registering persons with special
530 needs for special needs shelters, collecting registration
531 information for persons with special needs as part of the
532 program intake process, and establishing programs to educate
533 clients about the registration process and disaster preparedness

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534 safety procedures. A client of a state-funded or federally
535 funded service program who has a physical, mental, or cognitive
536 impairment or sensory disability and who needs assistance in
537 evacuating, or when in a shelter, must register as a person with
538 special needs. The registration program shall give persons with
539 special needs the option of preauthorizing emergency response
540 personnel to enter their homes during search and rescue
541 operations if necessary to ensure their safety and welfare
542 following disasters.

543 (4) The caregiver of a person with special needs who is
544 eligible for admission to a special needs shelter, and all
545 persons for whom he or she is the caregiver, shall be allowed to
546 shelter together in the special needs shelter. If a person with
547 special needs is responsible for the care of persons without
548 special needs, those persons shall be allowed to use the special
549 needs shelter with the person with special needs.

550 **Section 13. Subsections (3) through (6) of section**
551 **252.359, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

552 252.359 Ensuring availability of emergency supplies.—

553 (3) The division, as a function of emergency preparation,
554 response, and recovery, may facilitate ~~shall develop a system to~~
555 ~~certify each person who facilitates the transport or~~
556 ~~distribution of essentials in commerce. The division may not~~
557 ~~certify a person other than a person who routinely transports or~~
558 ~~distributes essentials. In developing the system, the division:~~

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

561 ~~(b) Shall allow the certification of an employer, if~~
562 ~~requested by the employer, to constitute a certification of the~~
563 ~~employer's employees.~~

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

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

570 (4) A person authorized to transport essentials ~~or~~
571 ~~employer certified~~ under subsection (3) is not required to
572 obtain any additional certification or fulfill any additional
573 requirement to transport or distribute essentials.

574 (5) Notwithstanding any curfew, restriction, road block,
575 quarantine, or other limitation on access to an area, a person
576 authorized ~~or employer certified~~ under subsection (3) to deliver
577 essentials may enter or remain in the restricted ~~curfew~~ area for
578 the limited purpose of facilitating the transport or
579 distribution of essentials and may provide service that exceeds
580 otherwise applicable hours of service maximums to the extent
581 authorized by a duly executed declaration of a state of
582 emergency. Local law enforcement shall cooperate with the

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583 division to ensure the availability of essentials under this
584 section.

585 (6) This section does not prohibit a law enforcement
586 officer from specifying the permissible route of ingress or
587 egress for a person authorized ~~eertified~~ under subsection (3).
588 Notwithstanding this section, all state roadways are determined
589 by the Florida Highway Patrol in coordination with the
590 Department of Transportation.

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

594 252.3611 Transparency; audits.—

595 (2) If ~~When~~ the duration of a declaration of a state of an
596 emergency issued by the Governor exceeds 90 days:

597 (a) 1. The Executive Office of the Governor or the
598 appropriate agency, within 72 hours after ~~of~~ executing a
599 contract executed with moneys authorized for expenditure to
600 support the response to the declared state of emergency, must
601 ~~the Executive Office of the Governor or the appropriate agency~~
602 ~~shall~~ submit a copy of such contract to the Legislature. For
603 contracts executed during the first 90 days of the declared
604 state of emergency, the Executive Office of the Governor or the
605 appropriate agency shall submit a copy to the Legislature within
606 the first 120 days of the declared state of emergency.

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607 2. All contracts executed to support the response to a
608 declared state of emergency, including contracts executed before
609 a declared state of emergency to secure resources or services in
610 advance or anticipation of an emergency, must be posted on the
611 secure contract tracking system required under s. 215.985(14).

612 (b) The Executive Office of the Governor or the
613 appropriate agency shall submit monthly reports to the
614 Legislature of all state expenditures, revenues received, and
615 funds transferred by an agency during the previous month to
616 support the declared state of emergency.

617 (5) Annually, by January 15, the division shall report to
618 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
619 Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriations committee
620 of each house of the Legislature on expenditures related to
621 emergencies incurred over the year from November 1 of the
622 previous year. The report must include:

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

625 (b) Details of expenditures, separated by emergency event
626 and agency, for preparing for, responding to, or recovering from
627 the event. The report must specify detailed expenditures for the
628 entire report time period; specify total expenditures for the
629 event; and indicate amounts that are being or are anticipated to
630 be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or
631 other federal entity, amounts ineligible for reimbursement, and

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632 any amounts deobligated by the Federal Emergency Management
633 Agency or other federal entity for reimbursement. The division
634 shall review expenditures by state agencies to ensure that
635 efforts, purchases, contracts, or expenditures are not
636 duplicated.

637 (c) An accounting of all inventory and assets purchased,
638 separated by emergency event and agency, for preparing for,
639 responding to, or recovering from the event, including motor
640 vehicles, boats, computers, and other equipment, and the current
641 status of such assets, including divestment, sale, or donation
642 by the state. The report must include a detailed accounting for
643 the entire report time period and specify a total for the event.

644 **Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section**
645 **252.363, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

646 252.363 Tolling and extension of permits and other
647 authorizations.—

648 (1) (a) The declaration of a state of emergency issued by
649 the Governor for a natural emergency tolls the period remaining
650 to exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization for
651 the duration of the emergency declaration. Further, the
652 emergency declaration extends the period remaining to exercise
653 the rights under a permit or other authorization for 24 months
654 in addition to the tolled period. The extended period to
655 exercise the rights under a permit or other authorization may
656 not exceed 48 months in total in the event of multiple natural

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657 emergencies for which the Governor declares a state of
658 emergency. The tolling and extension of permits and other
659 authorizations under this paragraph shall apply retroactively to
660 September 28, 2022. This paragraph applies to the following:

661 1. The expiration of a development order issued by a local
662 government.

663 2. The expiration of a building permit.

664 3. The expiration of a permit issued by the Department of
665 Environmental Protection or a water management district pursuant
666 to part IV of chapter 373.

667 4. Permits issued by the Department of Environmental
668 Protection or a water management district pursuant to part II of
669 chapter 373 for land subject to a development agreement under
670 ss. 163.3220-163.3243 in which the permittee and the developer
671 are the same or a related entity.

672 5. The buildout date of a development of regional impact,
673 including any extension of a buildout date that was previously
674 granted as specified in s. 380.06(7)(c).

675 6. The expiration of a development permit or development
676 agreement authorized by Florida Statutes, including those
677 authorized under the Florida Local Government Development
678 Agreement Act, or issued by a local government or other
679 governmental agency.

680 7. The formal determination of the delineation of the
681 extent of wetlands under s. 373.421. Notwithstanding the

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682 timeframes provided in paragraph (a), the tolling and extension
683 of determinations under this subparagraph shall apply
684 retroactively to January 1, 2023.

685 **Section 16. Subsection (4) of section 252.365, Florida**
686 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

687 252.365 Emergency coordination officers; disaster-
688 preparedness plans.—

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

694 **Section 17. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (5) of**
695 **section 252.37, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs**
696 **(d) and (e), respectively, a new paragraph (c) is added to that**
697 **subsection, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to**
698 **read:**

699 252.37 Financing.—

700 (5) Unless otherwise specified in the General
701 Appropriations Act:

702 (c) If the division intends to accept or apply for federal
703 funds for a division-administered program that is new, that will
704 be implemented in a manner that is innovative or significantly
705 different from the manner in which the program is typically
706 administered, or that will require a state match for which the

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707 division will be required to seek new budget authority, the
708 division must notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or
709 apply for the federal funds. The notice must detail the federal
710 program under which the funds will be accepted or applied for,
711 the intended purpose and use of the funds, and the amount of
712 funds, including the estimated state match.

713 (7) The division shall take steps to maximize the
714 availability and expedite the distribution of financial
715 assistance from the Federal Government to state and local
716 agencies. Such steps must include the standardization and
717 streamlining of the application process for financial assistance
718 through the federal Public Assistance Program and provision of
719 assistance to applicants in order to mitigate the risk of
720 noncompliance with federal program requirements. The division
721 shall use federal funds allocated as management costs or other
722 funds as appropriated to implement this subsection.

723 **Section 18. Section 252.3713, Florida Statutes, is created**
724 **to read:**

725 252.3713 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program.—

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

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731 (2) The division may retain no more than 25 percent of the
732 total federal allocation of funds received for use within the
733 state. A minimum of 75 percent of any funds received pursuant to
734 a declared disaster must be distributed for use by the
735 subrecipients in the counties specified in the Presidential
736 Disaster Declaration for that disaster. However, a subrecipient
737 may elect to share some or all of its allocation with the
738 division to be used for projects benefiting the region in which
739 the subrecipient is located.

740 (3) The division and subrecipients shall consider projects
741 that fulfill the following purposes when adopting mitigation
742 strategies and plans and applying for funds under the grant
743 program:

744 (a) Reducing shelter space deficits through retrofitting
745 of existing shelters and hardening of public buildings that are
746 not schools. Reducing deficits in shelter space intended to
747 accommodate individuals with special needs must be prioritized
748 before addressing deficits in other types of shelter space.
749 Additionally, general population shelters which are retrofitted
750 must also account for federal accessibility standards and state
751 accessibility standards in part II of chapter 553.

752 (b) Mitigating impacts to public infrastructure, including
753 roads, bridges, and stormwater, water, and sewer systems, to
754 enhance resistance to natural hazards and prevent and reduce
755 losses.

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756 (c) Mitigating impacts to school facilities which will
757 reduce future disaster losses and make the facilities more
758 resistant to natural hazards.

759 (d) Retrofitting of regional and local emergency
760 management or operations centers.

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

762 (4) The division may coordinate with other state agencies
763 and political subdivisions to develop and implement innovative
764 approaches to funding mitigation projects using grants under the
765 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, including, but not limited to,
766 combining funding received from multiple federal and state
767 programs. The division, in cooperation with other state agencies
768 that administer federal grant programs, shall ensure that:

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

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

774 (5) A fiscally constrained county may request that the
775 division administer the grant for such county. A fiscally
776 constrained county may request additional assistance from the
777 division in preparing applications for grants and developing a
778 structure for implementing, monitoring the execution of, and
779 closing out projects.

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780 (6) The division shall adopt rules to implement this
781 section.

782 **Section 19. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section**
783 **252.373, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

784 252.373 Allocation of funds; rules.—

785 (2) The division shall allocate funds from the Emergency
786 Management, Preparedness, and Assistance Trust Fund to local
787 emergency management agencies and programs pursuant to criteria
788 specified in rule. Such rules shall include, but are not limited
789 to:

790 (a) Requiring that, at a minimum, a local emergency
791 management agency either:

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

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

800 **Section 20. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (3) of**
801 **section 252.38, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs**
802 **(b) and (c), respectively, a new paragraph (a) is added to that**
803 **subsection, and paragraph (a) of subsection (1) is amended, to**
804 **read:**

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805 252.38 Emergency management powers of political
806 subdivisions.—Safeguarding the life and property of its citizens
807 is an innate responsibility of the governing body of each
808 political subdivision of the state.

809 (1) COUNTIES.—

810 (a) In order to provide effective and orderly governmental
811 control and coordination of emergency operations in emergencies
812 within the scope of ss. 252.31-252.90, each county within this
813 state shall be within the jurisdiction of, and served by, the
814 division. Except as otherwise provided in ss. 252.31-252.90,
815 each local emergency management agency shall have jurisdiction
816 over and serve an entire county. Unless part of an
817 interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered into
818 pursuant to paragraph (3) (c) ~~(3) (b)~~ which is recognized by the
819 Governor by executive order or rule, each county must establish
820 and maintain such an emergency management agency and shall
821 develop a county emergency management plan and program that is
822 coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive
823 emergency management plan and program. Counties that are part of
824 an interjurisdictional emergency management agreement entered
825 into pursuant to paragraph (3) (c) ~~(3) (b)~~ which is recognized by
826 the Governor by executive order or rule shall cooperatively
827 develop an emergency management plan and program that is
828 coordinated and consistent with the state comprehensive
829 emergency management plan and program.

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

831 (a) Each political subdivision shall notify the division
832 on or before May 1 each year of the person designated as the
833 emergency contact for the political subdivision and his or her
834 alternate and of any changes in persons so designated
835 thereafter. For a county, the emergency contact must be the
836 county emergency management director.

837 **Section 21. Section 252.381, Florida Statutes, is created**
838 **to read:**

839 252.381 Information related to natural emergencies;
840 poststorm county and municipal permitting; operations.—

841 (1) Each county and municipality must post on its publicly
842 accessible website:

843 (a) A frequently asked questions web page related to
844 natural emergency response, emergency preparedness, and public
845 relief for residents following an emergency. The web page must
846 answer questions concerning resident evacuations; safety tips;
847 generator, food and drinking water, and wastewater and
848 stormwater safety; damage assessment; debris cleanup; accessing
849 assistance through the Federal Emergency Management Agency and
850 this state; building recovery; natural emergency guidance;
851 applicable laws; and what to do before, during, and after an
852 emergency.

853 (b) A disaster supply list and a list of emergency
854 shelters.

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855 (c) Links to information about flood zones.

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

858 (e) Information specific to persons with disabilities,
859 including, but not limited to, guidelines for special needs
860 shelter registration; an explanation of how to register for
861 special needs shelters and where to obtain assistance with that
862 process; guidelines as to the level of care that is or is not
863 provided at a special needs shelter as well as situations when
864 either a general population shelter or hospital should be
865 considered; and any other postdisaster assistance or resources
866 available to affected persons with disabilities impacted by a
867 disaster.

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

872 (a) Ensure sufficient personnel are prepared and available
873 to expeditiously manage postdisaster building inspection,
874 permitting, and enforcement tasks. The plan must anticipate
875 conditions that would necessitate supplemental personnel for
876 such tasks and address methods for fulfilling such personnel
877 needs, including through mutual aid agreements as authorized in
878 s. 252.40, other arrangements, such as those with private sector
879 contractors, or supplemental state or federal funding. The plan

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880 must include training requirements and protocols for
881 supplemental personnel to ensure compliance with local
882 floodplain management requirements that apply within the county
883 or municipality.

884 (b) Account for multiple or alternate locations where
885 building permit services may be offered in person to the public
886 following a hurricane or tropical storm during regular business
887 hours.

888 (c) Specify a protocol to expedite permitting procedures
889 and, if practicable, for the waiver or reduction of applicable
890 fees in accordance with and in addition to the procedures and
891 waivers provided for under s. 553.7922. The plan must identify
892 the types of permits that are frequently requested following a
893 hurricane or tropical storm and methods to expedite the
894 processing of such permits.

895 (d) Specify procedures and resources necessary to promote
896 expeditious debris removal following a hurricane or tropical
897 storm.

898 (3) (a) Each county and municipality shall publish on its
899 website a hurricane and tropical storm recovery permitting guide
900 for residential and commercial property owners. The guide must
901 describe:

902 1. The types of poststorm repairs that require a permit
903 and applicable fees.

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904 2. The types of poststorm repairs that do not require a
905 permit.

906 3. The poststorm permit application process and specific
907 modifications the county or municipality commonly makes to
908 expedite the process, including the physical locations where
909 permitting services will be offered.

910 4. Local requirements for rebuilding specific to the
911 county or municipality, including elevation requirements
912 following substantial damage and substantial improvement
913 pursuant to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and any
914 local amendments to the building code.

915 (b) As soon as practicable following a hurricane or
916 tropical storm, a county or municipality within the area for
917 which a state of emergency pursuant to s. 252.36 for such
918 hurricane or tropical storm is declared shall publish updates on
919 its website to the information required under paragraph (a)
920 which are specific to such storm, including any permitting fee
921 waivers or reductions.

922 (4) For 180 days after a state of emergency is declared
923 pursuant to s. 252.36 for a hurricane or tropical storm, a
924 county or municipality within the area for which the state of
925 emergency is declared may not increase building permit or
926 inspection fees.

927 (5) On or before May 1, 2026, each county and municipality
928 must provide an online option for receiving, reviewing, and

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929 accessing substantial damage and substantial improvement
930 letters. The county or municipality must allow homeowners to
931 provide an e-mail address where they can receive digital copies
932 of such letters.

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

939 **Section 22. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 252.385,**
940 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

941 252.385 Public shelter space; public records exemption.—

942 (2)(a) The division shall administer a program to survey
943 existing schools, universities, community colleges, and other
944 state-owned, municipally owned, and county-owned public
945 buildings and any private facility that the owner, in writing,
946 agrees to provide for use as a public hurricane evacuation
947 shelter to identify those that are appropriately designed and
948 located to serve as such shelters. The owners of the facilities
949 must be given the opportunity to participate in the surveys. The
950 state university boards of trustees, district school boards,
951 community college boards of trustees, and the Department of
952 Education are responsible for coordinating and implementing the

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953 survey of public schools, universities, and community colleges
954 with the division or the local emergency management agency.

955 ~~(b) By January 31 of each even-numbered year, the division~~
956 ~~shall prepare and submit a statewide emergency shelter plan to~~
957 ~~the Governor and Cabinet for approval, subject to the~~
958 ~~requirements for approval in s. 1013.37(2). The emergency~~
959 ~~shelter plan must project, for each of the next 5 years, the~~
960 ~~hurricane shelter needs of the state, including periods of time~~
961 ~~during which a concurrent public health emergency may~~
962 ~~necessitate more space for each individual to accommodate~~
963 ~~physical distancing. In addition to information on the general~~
964 ~~shelter needs throughout this state, the plan must identify the~~
965 ~~general location and square footage of special needs shelters,~~
966 ~~by regional planning council region. The plan must also include~~
967 ~~information on the availability of shelters that accept pets.~~
968 ~~The Department of Health shall assist the division in~~
969 ~~determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space~~
970 ~~and the adequacy of facilities to meet the needs of persons with~~
971 ~~special needs based on information from the registries of~~
972 ~~persons with special needs and other information.~~

973 (3)(a) The division shall annually provide by October 15
974 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
975 the House of Representatives a report that includes, and the
976 ~~Governor~~ a list of facilities recommended to be retrofitted
977 using state funds. State funds should be maximized and targeted

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978 | to projects in counties ~~regional planning council regions~~ with
979 | hurricane evacuation shelter deficits. Additionally, the
980 | division shall prioritize on the list of recommended facilities
981 | other state-owned, municipal-owned, and county-owned public
982 | buildings, other than schools, for retrofitting using state
983 | funds. The owner or lessee of a public hurricane evacuation
984 | shelter that is included on the list of facilities recommended
985 | for retrofitting is not required to perform any recommended
986 | improvements.

987 | (b) The report required in paragraph (a) must include a
988 | statewide emergency shelter plan that must project, for each of
989 | the next 5 years, the hurricane shelter needs of the state. In
990 | addition to information on the general shelter needs throughout
991 | this state, the plan must identify, by county, the general
992 | location and square footage of special needs shelters. The plan
993 | must also include information on the availability of shelters
994 | that accept pets. The Department of Health and the Agency for
995 | Persons with Disabilities shall assist the division in
996 | determining the estimated need for special needs shelter space,
997 | the estimated need for general shelter space to accommodate
998 | persons with developmental disabilities, including, but not
999 | limited to, autism, and the adequacy of facilities to meet the
1000 | needs of persons with special needs based on information from
1001 | the registries of persons with special needs and other
1002 | information.

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1003 **Section 23. Section 252.421, Florida Statutes, is created**
1004 **to read:**

1005 252.421 Management of roadway debris related to natural
1006 emergencies.—The division shall coordinate with fiscally
1007 constrained counties, as described in s. 218.67(1), included in
1008 a declared state of emergency for a category 3 or higher
1009 hurricane and the Department of Transportation to provide such
1010 counties with state resources to remove debris from roadways,
1011 including roadways that are publicly accessible but not
1012 maintained by the county.

1013 **Section 24. Section 252.422, Florida Statutes, is created**
1014 **to read:**

1015 252.422 Restrictions on county or municipal regulations
1016 after a hurricane.—

1017 (1) As used in this section, the term "impacted local
1018 government" means a county listed in a federal disaster
1019 declaration located entirely or partially within 100 miles of
1020 the track of a storm declared to be a hurricane by the National
1021 Hurricane Center while the storm was categorized as a hurricane
1022 or a municipality located within such a county.

1023 (2) For 1 year after a hurricane makes landfall, an
1024 impacted local government may not propose or adopt:

1025 (a) A moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or
1026 redevelopment of any property.

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1027 (b) A more restrictive or burdensome amendment to its
1028 comprehensive plan or land development regulations.

1029 (c) A more restrictive or burdensome procedure concerning
1030 review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development
1031 permit, or development order, to the extent that those terms are
1032 defined in s. 163.3164.

1033 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2), a comprehensive plan
1034 amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan,
1035 development permit, or development order approved or adopted by
1036 an impacted local government before or after the effective date
1037 of this act may be enforced if:

1038 (a) The associated application is initiated by a private
1039 party other than the impacted local government and the property
1040 that is the subject of the application is owned by the
1041 initiating private party;

1042 (b) The proposed comprehensive plan amendment was
1043 submitted to reviewing agencies pursuant to s. 163.3184 before
1044 landfall; or

1045 (c) The proposed comprehensive plan amendment or land
1046 development regulation is approved by the state land planning
1047 agency pursuant to s. 380.05.

1048 (4) (a) Any person may file suit against any impacted local
1049 government for declaratory and injunctive relief to enforce this
1050 section.

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1051 (b) A county or municipality may request a determination
1052 by a court of competent jurisdiction as to whether such action
1053 violates this section. Upon such a request, the county or
1054 municipality may not enforce the action until the court has
1055 issued a preliminary or final judgment determining whether the
1056 action violates this section.

1057 (c) Before a plaintiff may file suit, the plaintiff shall
1058 notify the impacted local government by setting forth the facts
1059 upon which the complaint or petition is based and the reasons
1060 the impacted local government's action violates this section.
1061 Upon receipt of the notice, the impacted local government shall
1062 have 14 days to withdraw or revoke the action at issue or
1063 otherwise declare it void. If the impacted local government does
1064 not withdraw or revoke the action at issue within the time
1065 prescribed, the plaintiff may file suit. The plaintiff shall be
1066 entitled to entry of a preliminary injunction to prevent the
1067 impacted local government from implementing the challenged
1068 action during pendency of the litigation. In any action
1069 instituted pursuant to this paragraph, the prevailing plaintiff
1070 shall be entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

1071 (d) In any case brought under this section, any party is
1072 entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011, and the
1073 court shall advance the cause on the calendar.

1074 **Section 25. Section 252.505, Florida Statutes, is created**
1075 **to read:**

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1076 252.505 Breach of contract during emergency recovery
1077 periods for natural emergencies.—Each state or local government
1078 contract for goods or services related to emergency response for
1079 a natural emergency entered into, renewed, or amended on or
1080 after July 1, 2025, must include a provision that requires a
1081 vendor or service provider that breaches such contract during an
1082 emergency recovery period to pay actual, consequential, and
1083 liquidated damages and a \$5,000 penalty. As used in this
1084 section, the term "emergency recovery period" means a 1-year
1085 period that begins on the date that the Governor initially
1086 declared a state of emergency for a natural emergency.

1087 **Section 26. Subsection (4) is added to section 373.423,**
1088 **Florida Statutes, to read:**

1089 373.423 Inspection.—

1090 (4) (a) By September 1, 2026, the department shall submit a
1091 Flood Inventory and Restoration Report to the Division of
1092 Emergency Management. The department must work with water
1093 management districts, local governments, and operators of public
1094 and private stormwater management systems to compile the
1095 necessary information for the report, which must:

1096 1. Identify priority infrastructure needs within each
1097 water management district jurisdiction that may result in
1098 flooding, property damage, or threaten human health if left
1099 unaddressed;

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Amendment No.

1100 2. Identify locations that have both historic flooding
1101 occurrences, based on flood zones identified by the Federal
1102 Emergency Management Agency, and the potential to flood from
1103 future significant storm events, such as hurricanes and tropical
1104 storms;

1105 3. Include for each of these locations an inspection and
1106 maintenance schedule and specific information on the age of the
1107 infrastructure, upstream impacts, and other factors that may
1108 lead to system failure if unaddressed; and

1109 4. Include a list of facilities prioritized for funding to
1110 address flooding issues.

1111 (b) The owner of any priority infrastructure identified in
1112 the report must submit an inspection and maintenance schedule to
1113 the department.

1114 (c) The department must review and update the report on a
1115 biannual basis. The report must provide information regarding
1116 compliance with the inspection and maintenance schedules,
1117 include any additional revisions based on storm event
1118 experience, and revise the list of facilities as new flooding
1119 events take place and new projects are implemented to alleviate
1120 infrastructure deficiencies which led to flood events. The
1121 department must submit an updated report to the Division of
1122 Emergency Management by September 1 of each year in which the
1123 report is due.

Amendment No.

1124 **Section 27. Subsection (1) of section 400.063, Florida**
1125 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1126 400.063 Resident protection.—

1127 (1) The Health Care Trust Fund shall be used for the
1128 purpose of collecting and disbursing funds generated from the
1129 license fees and administrative fines as provided for in ss.
1130 393.0673(5), 400.062(3), 400.121(2), and 400.23(8). Such funds
1131 shall be for the sole purpose of paying for the appropriate
1132 alternate placement, care, and treatment of residents who are
1133 removed from a facility licensed under this part or a facility
1134 specified in s. 393.0678(1) in which the agency determines that
1135 existing conditions or practices constitute an immediate danger
1136 to the health, safety, or security of the residents. If the
1137 agency determines that it is in the best interest of the health,
1138 safety, or security of the residents to provide for an orderly
1139 removal of the residents from the facility, the agency may
1140 utilize such funds to maintain and care for the residents in the
1141 facility pending removal and alternative placement. The
1142 maintenance and care of the residents shall be under the
1143 direction and control of a receiver appointed pursuant to s.
1144 393.0678(1) or s. 400.126(1). However, funds may be expended in
1145 an emergency upon a filing of a petition for a receiver, upon
1146 the declaration of a state of local emergency pursuant to s.
1147 252.38(3)(b)5. ~~s. 252.38(3)(a)5.~~, or upon a duly authorized

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Amendment No.

1148 local order of evacuation of a facility by emergency personnel
1149 to protect the health and safety of the residents.

1150 **Section 28. Subsection (7) of section 403.7071, Florida**
1151 **Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that**
1152 **section, to read:**

1153 403.7071 Management of storm-generated debris.—Solid waste
1154 generated as a result of a storm event that is the subject of an
1155 emergency order issued by the department may be managed as
1156 follows:

1157 (7) Unless otherwise specified in a contract or franchise
1158 agreement between a local government and a private solid waste
1159 or debris management service provider, a private solid waste or
1160 debris management service provider is not required to collect
1161 storm-generated yard trash, debris, or waste. Local governments
1162 are authorized and encouraged to add an addendum to existing
1163 contracts or franchise agreements for collection of storm-
1164 generated debris.

1165 (8) (a) Each county and municipality shall apply to the
1166 department for authorization of at least one debris management
1167 site as described in subsection (2) and shall annually seek
1168 preauthorization for any previously approved debris management
1169 sites, as allowed by the department.

1170 (b) A municipality may jointly apply for authorization of
1171 a debris management site with a county or at least one adjacent
1172 municipality, if the parties develop and approve a memorandum of

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1173 understanding. Such memorandum must clearly outline the capacity
1174 of the debris management site and location of the site relative
1175 to each party. The memorandum of understanding must be approved
1176 annually as part of the preauthorization process described in
1177 paragraph (a).

1178 **Section 29. Section 489.1132, Florida Statutes, is created**
1179 **to read:**

1180 489.1132 Regulation of hoisting equipment used in
1181 construction, demolition, or excavation work during a
1182 hurricane.—

1183 (1) As used in this section, the term:

1184 (a) "Controlling entity" means the general contractor,
1185 prime contractor, or construction manager with overall
1186 responsibility for a construction project.

1187 (b) "Hoisting equipment" means power-operated cranes,
1188 derricks, and hoists used in construction, demolition, or
1189 excavation work that are regulated by the Occupational Safety
1190 and Health Administration.

1191 (c) "Mobile crane" means a type of hoisting equipment
1192 incorporating a cable-suspended latticed boom or hydraulic
1193 telescoping boom designed to be moved between operating
1194 locations by transport over a roadway. The term does not include
1195 a mobile crane with a boom length of less than 25 feet or a
1196 maximum rated load capacity of less than 15,000 pounds.

Amendment No.

1197 (d) "Tower crane" means a type of hoisting equipment using
1198 a vertical mast or tower to support a working boom in an
1199 elevated position if the working boom can rotate to move loads
1200 laterally either by rotating at the top of the mast or tower or
1201 by the rotation of the mast or tower itself, whether the mast or
1202 tower base is fixed in one location or ballasted and moveable
1203 between locations.

1204 (2) (a) When a tower crane or mobile crane is located on a
1205 worksite, a hurricane preparedness plan for the crane must be
1206 available for inspection at the worksite.

1207 (b) In preparation for a hurricane, the controlling entity
1208 must ensure that hoisting equipment is secured in the following
1209 manner no later than 24 hours before the impacts of the
1210 hurricane are anticipated to begin:

1211 1. All hoisting equipment must be secured in compliance
1212 with manufacturer recommendations relating to hurricane and
1213 high-wind events, including any recommendations relating to the
1214 placement, use, and removal of advertising banners and rigging.

1215 2. Tower crane turntables must be lubricated before the
1216 event.

1217 3. Fixed booms on mobile cranes must be laid down whenever
1218 feasible.

1219 4. Booms on hydraulic cranes must be retracted and stored.

1220 5. The counterweights of any hoists must be locked below
1221 the top tie-in.

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Amendment No.

1222 6. Tower cranes must be set in the weathervane position.

1223 7. All rigging must be removed from hoist blocks.

1224 8. All power at the base of tower cranes must be
1225 disconnected.

1226 (3) A person licensed under this part who intentionally
1227 violates this section is subject to discipline under ss. 455.227
1228 and 489.129.

1229 (4) The Florida Building Commission shall establish best
1230 practices for the utilization of tower cranes and hoisting
1231 equipment on construction jobsites during hurricane season and
1232 report findings to the Legislature by December 31, 2026.

1233 **Section 30. Subsection (6) of section 553.902, Florida**
1234 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1235 553.902 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

1236 (6) "Renovated building" means a residential or
1237 nonresidential building undergoing alteration that varies or
1238 changes insulation, HVAC systems, water heating systems, or
1239 exterior envelope conditions, if the estimated cost of
1240 renovation exceeds 30 percent of the assessed value of the
1241 structure. However, if the alteration is a result of a natural
1242 disaster that is the subject of a declaration of a state of
1243 emergency by the Governor, the estimated cost of renovation must
1244 exceed 75 percent of the fair market value of the building
1245 before the natural disaster.

Amendment No.

1246 **Section 31.** The Division of Emergency Management shall
1247 consult with local governments, the Department of Business and
1248 Professional Regulation, the Department of Environmental
1249 Protection, and any other appropriate agencies to develop
1250 recommendations for statutory changes necessary to streamline
1251 the permitting process for repairing and rebuilding structures
1252 damaged during natural emergencies. By July 1, 2026, the
1253 division shall provide a report containing such recommendations
1254 to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
1255 Representatives.

1256 **Section 32.** (1) Each county listed in the Federal
1257 Disaster Declaration for Hurricane Debby (DR-4806), Hurricane
1258 Helene (DR-4828), or Hurricane Milton (DR-4834), and each
1259 municipality within one of those counties, may not propose or
1260 adopt any moratorium on construction, reconstruction, or
1261 redevelopment of any property damaged by such hurricanes;
1262 propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome amendments to
1263 its comprehensive plan or land development regulations; or
1264 propose or adopt more restrictive or burdensome procedures
1265 concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan,
1266 development permit, or development order, to the extent that
1267 those terms are defined by s. 163.3164, Florida Statutes, before
1268 October 1, 2027, and any such moratorium or restrictive or
1269 burdensome comprehensive plan amendment, land development

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Amendment No.

1270 regulation, or procedure shall be null and void ab initio. This
1271 subsection applies retroactively to August 1, 2024.

1272 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1), any comprehensive plan
1273 amendment, land development regulation amendment, site plan,
1274 development permit, or development order approved or adopted by
1275 a county or municipality before or after the effective date of
1276 this act may be enforced if:

1277 (a) The associated application is initiated by a private
1278 party other than the county or municipality.

1279 (b) The property that is the subject of the application is
1280 owned by the initiating private party.

1281 (3) (a) A resident of or the owner of a business in a
1282 county or municipality may bring a civil action for declaratory
1283 and injunctive relief against the county or municipality for a
1284 violation of this section. Pending adjudication of the action
1285 and upon filing of a complaint showing a violation of this
1286 section, the resident or business owner is entitled to a
1287 preliminary injunction against the county or municipality
1288 preventing implementation of the moratorium or the comprehensive
1289 plan amendment, land development regulation, or procedure. If
1290 such civil action is successful, the resident or business owner
1291 is entitled to reasonable attorney fees and costs.

1292 (b) Attorney fees and costs and damages may not be awarded
1293 pursuant to this subsection if:

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1294 1. The resident or business owner provides the governing
1295 body of the county or municipality written notice that a
1296 proposed or enacted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment,
1297 land development regulation, or procedure is in violation of
1298 this section; and

1299 2. The governing body of the county or municipality
1300 withdraws the proposed moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment,
1301 land development regulation, or procedure within 14 days; or, in
1302 the case of an adopted moratorium, comprehensive plan amendment,
1303 land development regulation, or procedure, the governing body of
1304 a county or municipality notices an intent to repeal within 14
1305 days after receipt of the notice and repeals the moratorium,
1306 comprehensive plan amendment, land development regulation, or
1307 procedure within 14 days thereafter.

1308 (4) This section expires June 30, 2028.

1309 **Section 33.** The Division of Law Revision is directed to
1310 replace the phrase "the effective date of this act" wherever it
1311 occurs in this act with the date this act becomes a law.

1312 **Section 34.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a
1313 law.

1314
1315 -----
1316 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

1317 Remove everything before the enacting clause and insert:

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1318 An act relating to emergencies; amending s. 83.63,
1319 F.S.; requiring certain tenants to be given specified
1320 opportunities or notice; amending s. 101.733, F.S.;
1321 removing provisions relating to an elections emergency
1322 contingency plan; creating s. 101.7325, F.S.;
1323 authorizing certain supervisors of elections to
1324 request authority to take specified actions under
1325 certain circumstances; requiring certain requests to
1326 be submitted in a specified manner; requiring the
1327 Secretary of State to approve or deny such requests
1328 within a specified timeframe; specifying criteria to
1329 consider when approving or denying a request;
1330 requiring certain requests to be deemed approved;
1331 requiring such approvals and denials to be posted in a
1332 specified manner; requiring such supervisors to use
1333 specified methods to inform affected voters of
1334 election changes; creating s. 101.735, F.S.; requiring
1335 the Division of Elections to develop a statewide
1336 election emergency contingency plan for a specified
1337 purpose; requiring such plan to include certain
1338 procedures; requiring supervisors of elections to
1339 develop a local election emergency contingency plan in
1340 consultation with certain officials; requiring the
1341 plan to be submitted to the division for approval by a
1342 certain date; requiring the division to make a certain

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Amendment No.

1343 determination by a specified date; requiring the
1344 division to adopt rules; creating s. 101.736, F.S.;
1345 defining the term "tabletop exercise"; requiring the
1346 Secretary of State, in coordination with supervisors
1347 of elections, to develop an election emergency
1348 training program; requiring the Secretary of State to
1349 convene a workgroup for a certain purpose by a
1350 specified date of every odd-numbered year; providing
1351 requirements for the workgroup; requiring the results
1352 of the workgroup to be used in a specified manner;
1353 creating s. 163.31795, F.S.; defining the terms
1354 "cumulative substantial improvement period" and "local
1355 government"; requiring local governments that are
1356 participating in a specified insurance program to
1357 adopt certain cumulative substantial improvement
1358 periods; amending s. 163.31801, F.S.; prohibiting
1359 certain entities from assessing impact fees for
1360 specified replacement structures; providing an
1361 exception; providing construction; amending s.
1362 193.155, F.S.; providing that repair and maintenance
1363 of specified property is not a change, an addition, or
1364 an improvement under certain circumstances; revising
1365 the square footage limitations for certain changes,
1366 additions, and improvements to damaged property;
1367 providing construction; amending s. 215.559, F.S.;

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1368 removing a reference to a certain report; revising
1369 public hurricane shelter funding prioritization
1370 requirements for the Division of Emergency Management;
1371 amending s. 250.375, F.S.; authorizing certain
1372 servicemembers to provide medical care in specified
1373 circumstances; amending s. 252.35, F.S.; revising
1374 requirements for the state comprehensive emergency
1375 management plan; requiring such plan to include an
1376 update on the status of certain emergency management
1377 capabilities; requiring the division to collaborate
1378 with the Department of Health; revising
1379 responsibilities of the division; requiring the
1380 division to develop a certain template; requiring the
1381 division to specify the minimum number of training
1382 hours for specified local government personnel;
1383 removing a specified reporting requirement; amending
1384 s. 252.355, F.S.; authorizing the Department of
1385 Veterans' Affairs to provide certain information to
1386 specified clients or their caregivers; requiring the
1387 Florida Housing Finance Corporation to enter into
1388 memoranda of understanding with specified agencies for
1389 a certain purpose; providing that specified persons
1390 may use special needs shelters in certain
1391 circumstances; amending s. 252.359, F.S.; revising the
1392 manner in which the division facilitates

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1393 transportation and distribution of essentials before
1394 and after an emergency; requiring local law
1395 enforcement to cooperate with the division to ensure
1396 the availability of essentials; providing that certain
1397 entities have specified responsibilities determining
1398 roadways; amending s. 252.3611, F.S.; directing
1399 specified entities to submit specified contracts and
1400 reports to the Legislature under specified conditions;
1401 requiring such contracts to be posted on a specified
1402 secure contract system; requiring the division to
1403 report annually to the Legislature specified
1404 information on expenditures relating to emergencies;
1405 providing requirements for such report; amending s.
1406 252.363, F.S.; providing for the tolling and extension
1407 of certain determinations; amending s. 252.365, F.S.;
1408 requiring agency heads to notify the Governor and the
1409 division of the person designated as the emergency
1410 coordination officer annually by a specified date;
1411 amending s. 252.37, F.S.; requiring the division to
1412 notify the Legislature of its intent to accept or
1413 apply for federal funds under certain circumstances;
1414 requiring the division to take steps to maximize the
1415 availability and expedite the distribution of
1416 financial assistance from the Federal Government to
1417 state and local agencies; requiring that such steps

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Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1418 include the standardization and streamlining of the
1419 application process for federal financial assistance
1420 and the provision of assistance to applicants for a
1421 specified purpose; requiring the division to use
1422 certain federal funds to implement such requirements;
1423 creating s. 252.3713, F.S.; requiring the division to
1424 administer the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program;
1425 authorizing the division to retain a specified
1426 percentage of the funds for use within this state;
1427 requiring the remaining percentage to be distributed
1428 for use by certain recipients; authorizing
1429 subrecipients to make a certain election for a
1430 specified use; requiring the consideration of certain
1431 projects; authorizing the division to coordinate with
1432 specified entities under certain circumstances;
1433 requiring the division to ensure that certain
1434 requirements are met and certain projects are funded;
1435 authorizing fiscally constrained counties to request
1436 that the division administer the grant for such a
1437 county; authorizing such counties to request certain
1438 assistance from the division; requiring the division
1439 to adopt rules; amending s. 252.373, F.S.; conforming
1440 a cross-reference; amending s. 252.38, F.S.; requiring
1441 political subdivisions to annually provide specified
1442 notification to the division before a specified date;

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1443 creating s. 252.381, F.S.; requiring counties and
1444 municipalities to post certain information on their
1445 websites; requiring counties and municipalities to
1446 develop a poststorm permitting plan; providing
1447 requirements for such plan; requiring counties and
1448 municipalities to publish on their websites a
1449 specified storm recovery guide and updates to such
1450 guide; prohibiting certain counties and municipalities
1451 from increasing building permit or inspection fees
1452 within a specified timeframe; requiring certain
1453 counties and municipalities to use their best efforts
1454 to open a permitting office for a minimum number of
1455 hours per week; requiring entities to allow
1456 individuals to receive certain letters electronically
1457 on or before a specified date; amending s. 252.385,
1458 F.S.; revising reporting requirements for the
1459 division; revising requirements for a specified list;
1460 requiring the Department of Health and the Agency for
1461 Persons with Disabilities to assist the division with
1462 certain determinations; creating s. 252.421, F.S.;
1463 requiring the division to coordinate with certain
1464 counties for a specified purpose; creating s. 252.422,
1465 F.S.; defining the term "impacted local government";
1466 prohibiting impacted local governments from proposing
1467 or adopting certain moratoriums, amendments, or

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COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1468 | procedures for a specified timeframe; authorizing the
1469 | enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and
1470 | orders under certain circumstances; authorizing any
1471 | person to file suit to enforce specified provisions;
1472 | authorizing counties and municipalities to request a
1473 | specified determination by a court; prohibiting
1474 | counties and municipalities from taking certain
1475 | actions until the court has issued a preliminary or
1476 | final judgment; requiring plaintiffs to provide
1477 | certain notification before filing suit; requiring
1478 | impacted local governments to take certain actions
1479 | upon receipt of such notification or a suit may be
1480 | filed; providing for reasonable attorney fees and
1481 | costs; authorizing the use of a certain summary
1482 | procedure; requiring the court to advance the cause on
1483 | the calendar; creating s. 252.505, F.S.; requiring
1484 | certain contracts to include a specified provision;
1485 | defining the term "emergency recovery period";
1486 | amending s. 373.423, F.S.; requiring the Department of
1487 | Environmental Protection to work with specified
1488 | entities to compile a report; providing specifications
1489 | for the report; requiring the owner of certain
1490 | infrastructure to provide information to the
1491 | department; requiring an updated report biannually;
1492 | amending s. 400.063, F.S.; conforming a cross-

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Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1493 reference; amending s. 403.7071, F.S.; providing that
1494 local governments are authorized and encouraged to add
1495 certain addendums to certain contracts and agreements;
1496 requiring counties and municipalities to apply to the
1497 Department of Environmental Protection for
1498 authorization to designate at least one debris
1499 management site; authorizing municipalities to apply
1500 jointly with a county or adjacent municipality for
1501 authorization of a debris management site if such
1502 entities approve a memorandum of understanding;
1503 providing requirements for such memorandum; creating
1504 s. 489.1132, F.S.; providing definitions; requiring a
1505 hurricane preparedness plan to be available for
1506 inspection at certain worksites; requiring certain
1507 equipment to be secured in a specified manner no later
1508 than 24 hours before the impacts of a hurricane are
1509 anticipated to begin; providing penalties; amending s.
1510 553.902, F.S.; revising the definition of the term
1511 "renovated building"; requiring the division to
1512 consult with specified entities to develop certain
1513 recommendations and provide a report to the
1514 Legislature by a specified date; prohibiting certain
1515 counties from proposing or adopting certain
1516 moratoriums, amendments, or procedures for a specified
1517 timeframe; declaring that such moratoriums,

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Bill No. CS/CS/HB 1535 (2025)

Amendment No.

1518 amendments, or procedures are null and void; providing
1519 for retroactive application; authorizing the
1520 enforcement of certain amendments, plans, permits, and
1521 orders under certain circumstances; authorizing
1522 certain residents and business owners to bring a civil
1523 action for declaratory and injunctive relief against a
1524 county or municipality that violates specified
1525 provisions; providing for reasonable attorney fees and
1526 costs under specified circumstances; providing for
1527 future expiration; providing a directive to the
1528 Division of Law Revision; providing an effective date.