

By the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources; and  
Senator Berman

592-02514A-25

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1 A bill to be entitled  
2 An act relating to advanced wastewater treatment;  
3 providing legislative findings; requiring the  
4 Department of Environmental Protection, in  
5 consultation with water management districts and  
6 wastewater facilities, to submit to the Governor and  
7 the Legislature specified reports on certain sewage  
8 disposal facilities in this state by specified dates;  
9 providing requirements for the reports; providing an  
10 effective date.

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

13  
14 Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that the discharge of  
15 inadequately treated wastewater and aging sewage disposal  
16 facilities compromises the quality of the environment, including  
17 freshwater, brackish water, and nearshore and offshore salt  
18 waters, and threatens the quality of life and local economies in  
19 this state which depend on those resources. The Legislature also  
20 finds that the only practical and cost-effective way to  
21 fundamentally improve wastewater management is to implement  
22 advanced wastewater treatment or better at all sewage disposal  
23 facilities with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million  
24 gallons per day in the state.

25 (2) In order to prioritize the upgrade of sewage disposal  
26 facilities, by December 31, 2025, the Department of  
27 Environmental Protection, in consultation with the water  
28 management districts and wastewater facilities, shall submit to  
29 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of

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30 the House of Representatives a report detailing all of the  
31 following for all sewage disposal facilities with a permitted  
32 capacity of greater than 1 million gallons per day in this  
33 state:

34 (a) Year of construction for the facility and any  
35 maintenance or upgrades.

36 (b) Total permitted volume of wastewater treated daily.

37 (c) Actual permitted volume of wastewater treated daily,  
38 including the most recent 1-year and 5-year averages.

39 (d) Current level of treatment, including concentrations  
40 for all of the following:

41 1. Biochemical oxygen demand.

42 2. Suspended solids.

43 3. Total nitrogen.

44 4. Total phosphorus.

45 5. 1,4-dioxane.

46 6. Perfluorooctanoic acid.

47 7. Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid.

48 8. Molybdenum.

49 9. Other contaminants of emerging concern as determined by  
50 the Department of Environmental Protection.

51 (e) Estimated total pollutant load based on permitted  
52 volume and concentrations.

53 (f) Disposal methods and the volume discharged to any  
54 receiving water bodies, if applicable, pursuant to s.  
55 403.064(16), Florida Statutes.

56 (g) Impairment status of any receiving water bodies within  
57 the watershed.

58 (h) Implementation status of total maximum daily loads and

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59 basin management action plans and recommended reductions for  
60 load allocations and wasteload allocations for pollutants of  
61 concern.

62 (i) Total volume and concentration of any permitted and  
63 nonpermitted wastewater spills since 2010.

64 (j) Elevation of the facility and supporting  
65 infrastructure.

66 (k) Location within a floodplain, flood zone, or coastal  
67 high-hazard area and, if applicable, the corresponding zone  
68 number.

69 (3) By December 31, 2026, the Department of Environmental  
70 Protection, in consultation with the water management districts  
71 and sewage disposal facilities, shall submit to the Governor,  
72 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
73 Representatives a report outlining a priority ranking process to  
74 upgrade all sewage disposal facilities with a permitted capacity  
75 of greater than 1 million gallons per day in this state to  
76 advanced wastewater treatment by 2036, based on all of the  
77 following:

78 (a) Overall environmental benefit of a project based on:

79 1. Water quality in receiving waterbodies, including  
80 impairment status;

81 2. Severity and duration of documented algal blooms;

82 3. Loss of submerged vegetation;

83 4. Death of fish and wildlife;

84 5. Public health advisories;

85 6. Quantity and concentration of permitted and nonpermitted  
86 spills; and

87 7. Risk of failure.

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88 (b) Estimated reduction in nutrient and pollutant loads  
89 with advanced wastewater treatment.

90 (c) An explanation of additional projects necessary to meet  
91 any adopted total maximum daily loads and basin management  
92 action plans if upgrading to advanced wastewater treatment is  
93 not sufficient.

94 (d) Cost-effectiveness as determined by a planning-level  
95 cost estimate.

96 (e) Potential financial assistance available, including the  
97 water quality improvement grant program under s. 403.0673,  
98 Florida Statutes, and availability of local matching funds.

99 (f) Project readiness and estimated date of completion.

100 (4) By June 30, 2027, the Department of Environmental  
101 Protection, in consultation with the water management districts  
102 and sewage disposal facilities, shall submit to the Governor,  
103 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
104 Representatives a progress report on the status of upgrades  
105 established under subsection (3) for each sewage disposal  
106 facility with a permitted capacity of greater than 1 million  
107 gallons per day in this state. The report must include the  
108 priority list identified pursuant to subsection (3), the  
109 preliminary cost estimates for the upgrades, a projected  
110 timeline of the dates by which the upgrades would begin and be  
111 completed, and the date by which operations of the upgraded  
112 sewage disposal facilities would begin.

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