

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

1
2 An act relating to conservation lands; amending s.
3 253.0341, F.S.; requiring the Division of State Lands
4 to publish certain information on its website before
5 the Acquisition and Restoration Council or the Board
6 of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund
7 meets to review the proposed sale of conservation
8 lands; conforming a cross-reference; amending s.
9 253.42, F.S.; requiring that certain parcels proposed
10 for exchange be appraised in accordance with certain
11 criteria; deleting provisions requiring the division
12 to submit certain requests to the council for review;
13 deleting provisions requiring the division to provide
14 certain recommendations to the board of trustees;
15 requiring the division to publish certain information
16 on its website before the council or the board of
17 trustees meets to review a proposed land exchange;
18 requiring the division to submit certain requests to
19 the council for review and requiring the council to
20 provide recommendations to the division in certain
21 circumstances; requiring the division to provide
22 certain recommendations to the board of trustees in
23 certain circumstances; making a technical change;
24 amending s. 373.089, F.S.; requiring the governing
25 board of a water management district to publish

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

26 certain information on its website before meeting to
 27 review the proposed sale or exchange of certain lands;
 28 amending s. 215.196, F.S.; conforming a cross-
 29 reference; providing an effective date.

30

31 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

32

33 Section 1. Present subsections (7) through (19) of section
 34 253.0341, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (8)
 35 through (20), respectively, subsection (11) of that section is
 36 amended, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section, to
 37 read:

38 253.0341 Surplus of state-owned lands.—

39 (7) At least 30 days before any meeting of the Acquisition
 40 and Restoration Council or the board of trustees to review the
 41 proposed sale of conservation lands, the Division of State Lands
 42 must publish the following information on its website:

43 (a) The parcels of state-owned land for sale; and

44 (b) A statement from the division explaining why the lands
 45 are no longer needed for conservation purposes.

46 (11) Requests to surplus lands may be made by any public
 47 or private entity or person and shall be determined by the board
 48 of trustees. All requests to surplus conservation lands shall be
 49 submitted to the lead managing agency for review and
 50 recommendation to the Acquisition and Restoration Council, and

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

51 all requests to surplus nonconservation lands shall be submitted
52 to the Division of State Lands for review and recommendation to
53 the board of trustees. The lead managing agencies shall review
54 such requests and make recommendations to the council within 90
55 days after receipt of the requests. Any requests to surplus
56 conservation lands that are not acted upon within the 90-day
57 period shall be immediately scheduled for hearing at the next
58 regularly scheduled meeting of the council. Requests to surplus
59 lands shall be considered by the board of trustees within 60
60 days after receipt of the requests from the council or division.
61 Requests to surplus lands pursuant to this subsection are not
62 required to be offered to state agencies as provided in
63 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~.

64 Section 2. Present paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) of
65 subsection (4) of section 253.42, Florida Statutes, are
66 redesignated as paragraphs (d), (e), and (f), respectively,
67 paragraph (a) of that subsection is amended, and new paragraphs
68 (b) and (c) are added to that subsection, to read:

69 253.42 Board of trustees may exchange lands.—This section
70 applies to all lands owned by, vested in, or titled in the name
71 of the board of trustees whether the lands were acquired by the
72 state as a purchase, or through gift, donation, or any other
73 conveyance for which no consideration was paid.

74 (4) (a) A person who owns land contiguous to state-owned
75 land titled to the board of trustees may submit a request to the

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

76 | Division of State Lands to exchange all or a portion of the
 77 | privately owned land for all or a portion of the state-owned
 78 | land, whereby the state retains a permanent conservation
 79 | easement over all or a portion of the exchanged state-owned land
 80 | and a permanent conservation easement over all or a portion of
 81 | the exchanged privately owned land. State-owned land exchanged
 82 | pursuant to this subsection must ~~shall~~ be contiguous to the
 83 | privately owned land upon which the state retains a permanent
 84 | conservation easement. Each parcel proposed for exchange
 85 | pursuant to this subsection must have at least one appraisal
 86 | that follows the appraisal criteria, techniques, and methods
 87 | adopted by the board of trustees pursuant to s. 253.025(8)(e) ~~If~~
 88 | ~~the division elects to proceed with a request, the division must~~
 89 | ~~submit the request to the Acquisition and Restoration Council~~
 90 | ~~for review and the council must provide recommendations to the~~
 91 | ~~division. If the division elects to forward a request to the~~
 92 | ~~board of trustees, the division must provide its recommendations~~
 93 | ~~and the recommendations of the council to the board. This~~
 94 | subsection does not apply to state-owned sovereign submerged
 95 | land.

96 | (b) At least 30 days before any meeting of the Acquisition
 97 | and Restoration Council or the board of trustees to review the
 98 | proposed land exchange of conservation lands, the Division of
 99 | State Lands shall publish the following information on its
 100 | website:

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

- 101 1. The parcels of state-owned lands proposed for exchange;
 102 2. The privately owned parcels of land proposed for
 103 exchange;
 104 3. The portions of the lands identified in subparagraphs
 105 1. and 2. which will be preserved in a permanent conservation
 106 easement;
 107 4. A statement from the division explaining how the
 108 exchange will result in a conservation benefit to the state; and
 109 5. Any recommendations from the division and the council
 110 related to the request.

111 (c) If the Division of State Lands elects to proceed with
 112 a request, the division must submit the request to the council
 113 for review, and the council must provide recommendations to the
 114 division. If the division elects to forward a request to the
 115 board of trustees, the division must provide its recommendations
 116 and the recommendations of the council to the board.

117 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (6) of section
 118 373.089, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

119 373.089 Sale or exchange of lands, or interests or rights
 120 in lands.—The governing board of the district may sell lands, or
 121 interests or rights in lands, to which the district has acquired
 122 title or to which it may hereafter acquire title in the
 123 following manner:

124 (6) Any lands the title to which is vested in the
 125 governing board of a water management district may be surplusd

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

126 pursuant to the procedures set forth in this section and s.
 127 373.056 and the following:

128 (a) For those lands designated as acquired for
 129 conservation purposes, the governing board shall make a
 130 determination that the lands are no longer needed for
 131 conservation purposes and may dispose of them by a two-thirds
 132 vote. At least 30 days before the governing board meets to
 133 review the proposed sale or exchange of such lands, the
 134 governing board shall publish the following information on its
 135 website, as applicable:

136 1. The parcels of district-owned lands for sale or
 137 proposed for exchange;

138 2. The parcels of privately owned lands proposed for
 139 exchange;

140 3. The portions of the lands identified in subparagraphs
 141 1. and 2. which will be preserved in a permanent conservation
 142 easement; and

143 4. A statement from the district explaining why the lands
 144 are no longer needed for conservation purposes.

145
 146 If the Board of Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund
 147 declines to accept title to the lands offered under this
 148 section, the land may be disposed of by the district under the
 149 provisions of this section.

150 Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 215.196, Florida

ENROLLED

CS/HB 441

2026 Legislature

151 Statutes, is amended to read:

152 215.196 Architects Incidental Trust Fund; creation;
153 assessment.—

154 (1) There is created the Architects Incidental Trust Fund
155 for the purpose of:

156 (a) Collecting all funds received through the sale of
157 surplus state-owned office buildings, as defined in s. 255.248,
158 and the nonconservation lands associated with such buildings;

159 (b) Diverting funds referenced in s. 253.0341(15)(b) ~~s.~~
160 ~~253.0341(14)(b)~~; and

161 (c) Providing sufficient funds for the operation of the
162 facilities development activities of the Department of
163 Management Services.

164 Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.