HB 479 2026

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to land and water management; creating
3	s. 373.027, F.S.; prohibiting counties and
4	municipalities from adopting laws, regulations, rules,
5	or policies relating to water quality or quantity,
6	pollution control, pollutant discharge prevention or
7	removal, and wetlands; preempting such regulation to
8	the state; providing applicability and construction;
9	requiring the department to notify the Chief Financial
10	Officer of certain violations; requiring the Chief
11	Financial Officer to withhold certain funds; repealing
12	s. 373.591, F.S., relating to land management review
13	teams; providing an effective date.
14	
15	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
16	
17	Section 1. Section 373.027, Florida Statutes, is created
18	to read:
19	373.027 Water management preemption.—
20	(1) A county or municipality may not adopt laws,
21	regulations, rules, or policies relating to any of the
22	following:
23	(a) Water quality.
24	(b) Water quantity.
25	(c) Pollution control.

Page 1 of 2

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

HB 479 2026

26	(d) Pollutant discharge prevention or removal.
27	(e) Wetlands, including any delineation.
28	(2) The regulation of water quality, water quantity,
29	pollution control, pollutant discharge prevention and removal,
30	and wetlands, including any delineation, is exclusively
31	preempted to the state.
32	(3) This section does not:
33	(a) Apply to an interagency or interlocal agreement
34	between the department and any agency, water management
35	district, or local government conducting programs relating to or
36	materially affecting the water resources of the state.
37	(b) Affect the authority of a county or municipality to
38	regulate and operate its own water system, wastewater system, or
39	stormwater system.
10	(4) If the department determines that a county or
11	municipality is in violation of this section, the department
12	shall notify the Chief Financial Officer of the violation and
13	the Chief Financial Officer shall withhold any state funds to
14	which the county or municipality may be entitled.
15	Section 2. Section 373.591, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
16	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.