

CS/HB 479

2026

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to land and water management; creating
s. 373.027, F.S.; prohibiting counties and
municipalities from adopting a law, regulation, rule,
policy, or ordinance that prohibits adjacent upland
activities that are outside a certain wetland buffer;
providing applicability and construction; repealing s.
373.591, F.S., relating to management review teams;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 373.027, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

373.027 Prohibition on counties and municipalities prohibiting adjacent upland activities outside a certain wetland buffer.-

(1) A county or municipality may not adopt a law, regulation, rule, policy, or ordinance that prohibits adjacent upland activities that are outside a wetland buffer that is a minimum width of 15 feet from the wetland and an average width of 25 feet from the wetland.

(2) This section does not:

(a) Apply to an interagency or interlocal agreement
between the department and any agency, water management

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26 district, or local government conducting programs relating to or
27 materially affecting the water resources of the state.

28 (b) Affect the authority of a county or municipality to
29 regulate and operate its own water system, wastewater system, or
30 stormwater system.

31 **Section 2.** Section 373.591, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

32 **Section 3.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.