

2024 Legislative Update

Polk Regional Water Cooperative

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By

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HB 1557/ SB 1386 DEP Legislative Package

- Mandates water management districts to develop rules promoting reclaimed water use and encouraging potable water offsets, with specific requirements for rule development.
- Defines "Florida Flood Hub" and updates definitions and requirements for pre construction activities, vulnerability assessments, and resilience planning.
- Updates enforcement and penalty provisions for environmental violations, including revising fine calculations and specifying deposit requirements for collected penalties.



HB 1557/ SB 1386 DEP Legislative Package – Cont.

- Requires the Department of Environmental Protection to coordinate with the Department of Health for transferring the Onsite Sewage Program and outlines enforcement activities for onsite sewage treatment regulations.
- Establishes requirements for counties to make services and facilities available as directed by the department.
- Revises legislative findings and requirements for domestic wastewater treatment facilities regarding reuse feasibility studies and implementation of reuse.
- Necessitates the inclusion of certain facilities and systems in basin management action plans for nutrient total maximum daily loads.
- Received by Governor pending approval deadline or veto May 10th, 2024



HB 1417 / SB 1638 Funding for Environmental Res. Mgmt

- Directs 96 percent of any revenue received under the 2021 Gaming Compact to be allocated to:
 - The implementation of the Florida Wildlife Corridor. (\$100 million)
 - The management of uplands and removal of invasive species, divided between the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), DEP, and the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS). (\$100 million)
 - DEP for the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan (\$100 million); and
 - The remainder to DEP for the Water Quality Improvement Grant Program (the balance of the funds available – estimated between \$300 million - \$1.1 billion/yr).



HB 1417 / SB 1638 Funding for Env. Res. Mgmt. – Cont.

- For FY 24-25 only the bill appropriations include:
 - \$150 million to the South Florida Water Management District for operations and maintenance; and
 - \$220 million to DEP for various programs including:
 - \$100 million from the Resilient Florida Trust Fund for the Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience Plan.
 - \$79 million from the Water Protection and Sustainability Trust Fund for the Water Quality Improvement Grant Program.
 - Approved by Governor on April 4th, 2024

HB 7053 / SB 7040 Stormwater Rule Ratification

- Ratifies and amends environmental regulations concerning stormwater and environmental resource permitting to ensure compliance with state law and requires legislative approval for future amendments
- Pending to be transmitted to Governor for approval as of May 6th, 2024



HB 149 / SB 656 Continuing Contracts

- Raises the maximum estimated construction cost for projects under a continuing contract from \$4 million to \$7.5 million.
- Requires the Department of Management Services to adjust this maximum amount annually starting July 1, 2025, based on the change in the June-to-June Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers issued by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the United States Department of Labor.
- Pending to be transmitted to Governor for approval as of May 6th, 2024

HB 7047 / SB 7006 OGSR / Utility Owned or Operated by a Unit of Local Government

- Amends public records and meetings exemptions for certain security-related information held by utilities operated by local governments and extends repeal dates.
- Approved by Governor March 22, 2024



HB 275 / SB 340 Offenses Involving Critical Infrastructure

Defines and establishes penalties for offenses involving critical infrastructure, including tampering, trespass, and unauthorized computer access.

- Specifies what constitutes "critical infrastructure," including various facilities and structures that are protected against unauthorized access.
- Sets criminal penalties for knowingly and intentionally tampering with critical infrastructure, resulting in significant damage or cost to restore.
- Holds individuals criminally liable for trespassing on critical infrastructure if they enter or remain on the property without authorization.
- Establishes that unauthorized access to, or tampering with, computers, systems, networks, or electronic devices owned by critical infrastructure entities is a criminal offense.
- Pending to be transmitted to Governor for approval as of May 6th, 2014



HB 705 / SB 742 Public Works Projects

- Expands and clarifies the definition of "public works project" and adjusts bidding process stipulations for such projects.
- Revises the definition of a "public works project" to include activities funded by local or state appropriations that encompass construction, maintenance, or improvement of various facilities or infrastructures partly or wholly owned by political subdivisions.
- Excludes from the definition services or work incidental to the public works project, such as security, janitorial, landscaping, and transportation services, as well as activities not requiring a construction contracting license or the supply of construction materials.
- Prohibits the state or any political subdivision contracting for public works from restricting certified, licensed, or registered contractors or suppliers from participating in the bidding process based on the geographic location of the company or the residences of its employees, with an exception for counties or municipalities as sole funders of a project.
- Pending to be transmitted to Governor for approval as of May 6th, 2024

**FY 24/25 Legislative Budget Summary
pending Governors Approval**

Department of Environmental Protection

Total: \$3.4 billion [\$1 billion GR; \$2.3 billion TF]; 3,167 positions

• **Everglades Restoration and South Florida Water Management District Operations - \$702 million**

• **Water Quality Improvements - \$1.7 billion**

Wastewater Grant Program - \$135 million

Water Supply Grant Program - \$25 million

Indian River Lagoon WQI - \$75 million

Biscayne Bay Water Quality Improvements - \$20 million

Caloosahatchee WQI - \$25 million

Water Projects - \$410.4 million

(PRWC - Heartland Headwaters Protection Sustainability Act \$2,614,379)

C-51 Reservoir - \$100 million

Water Quality Improvements - Everglades - \$50 million



Water Quality Improvements - Continued

Non-Point Source Planning Grants - \$5 million

Alternative Water Supply - \$55 million

(FY 23/24 PRWC Awarded \$13 million for SE Well field on 4/26/24)

Onsite Sewage Program - \$4.1 million

Water Quality Improvements - Blue Green Algae Task Force - \$10.8 million

Innovative Technology Grants for Harmful Algal Blooms - \$10 million

Harmful Algal Bloom Grants - \$10 million

Springs Restoration - \$55 million

Flood and Sea-Level Rise Program - \$125 million

Florida Forever Programs and Land Acquisition - \$528.6 million

Division of State Lands - \$100 million

Florida Recreational Development Assistance Grants - \$14.3 million

Rattlesnake Key Land Acquisition - \$8 million

Chips Hole and Wakulla Springs - \$3.8 million

Wekiva-Ocala Greenway - \$2.5 million

Grove Land Reservoir - \$400 million



FY 24/25 DEP Budget - Continued

Hazardous Waste and Dry Clean Site Cleanup - \$14 million

Beach Management Funding Assistance - \$50 million

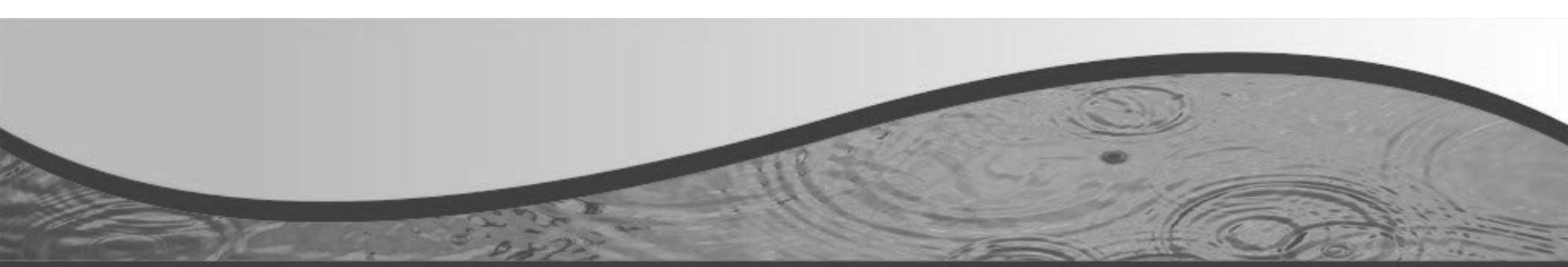
Water Infrastructure Improvements - \$178.3 million

Small County Wastewater Treatment Grants - \$8 million

Land and Water Conservation Grants - \$16.9 million

Local Parks - \$17.9 million

State Parks Maintenance and Repairs - \$15.5 million



Questions?

Follow up analysis and answers to questions can be provided as needed to cooperative members.

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