



MEMORANDUM

AGENDA ITEM #IV.D

DATE: JULY 6, 2015
TO: COUNCIL MEMBERS
FROM: STAFF
SUBJECT: EX OFFICIO REPORTS

Attached is a legislative update from Councilmember Jill Creech, Southeast District Director, Florida Department of Environmental Protection. The first part of the write-up identifies DEP priorities and status. The items with ** are expected to be revisited next session.

Recommendation

Information only.

2015 DEP Legislative Priorities for Session

**Regulation of Oil and Gas Resources: SB 1468- HB 1205

Providing that certain information may be considered proprietary business information; requiring that a permit be obtained before the performance of any high pressure well stimulation; prohibiting the department from approving any permit for a high pressure well stimulation until rulemaking is complete; prohibiting a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state from adopting or establishing permitting programs for certain oil and gas activities, etc. APPROPRIATION: \$1,000,000.00

- Sponsors: Senator Richter & Representative Rodrigues
- Read Second time on Senate floor and Laid on Table to Refer to HB 1205.

Relating to Contaminated Sites: HB 841- SB 1302

Requires DEP to include protocols for use of long-term natural attenuation where site conditions warrant; requires specified interactive effects of contaminants to be considered as cleanup criteria; revises how cleanup target levels are applied where surface waters are exposed to contaminated groundwater; authorizes use of relevant data & information when assessing cleanup target levels; provides that institutional controls are not required under certain circumstances if using alternative cleanup target levels.

- Sponsors: Senator Evers & Representative Drake
- Read Second time on floor and was sent to Messages to be placed on Calendar

Relating to Environmental Resources: SB 918- State Affairs Committee

Requiring the Department of Environmental Protection to publish, update, and maintain a database of conservation lands; creating the Florida Shared-Use Non-motorized Trail Network; revising the definition of the term "water resource development" to include technical assistance to self-suppliers under certain circumstances; specifying authority of the South Florida Water Management District to allocate quantities of, and assign priorities for the use of, water within its jurisdiction, etc.

- Sponsors: Senator Dean & PCB.
- Read Second time on floor and Laid on Table to Refer to HB 7003.

****Relating to Petroleum Restoration Program: SB 314- HB 733**

Removing the requirement that applications for the Abandoned Tank Restoration Program must have been submitted to the Department of Environmental Protection by a certain time; prohibiting the department from incorporating risk-based corrective actions principles not approved by the property owner; authorizing site owners and operators to select agency term contractors from which the department must select from under certain circumstances; revising the number of sites for certain advanced cleanup applications, etc.

- Sponsors: Senator Simpson & Representative Ray
- Read Second time on floor and Laid on Table to refer to 0733.

****Relating to State Lands: SB 7086 & HB 7135**

Revises criteria for land management goals & management plan updates; requires Division of State Lands to review conservation & non-conservation lands to determine if such lands could support low-impact agriculture or be disposed of; provides for low-impact agriculture agreements; requires Acquisition & Restoration Council to provide certain recommendations; directs Board of Trustees of Internal Improvement Trust Fund to dispose of lands under certain conditions; provides for certain state-owned lands to be exchanged for certain privately owned land; directs DEP to include certain lands in database; requires local governments to submit certain information to DEP; requires council to give priority funding consideration to certain projects; provides for inclusion of certain projects; directs DEP to consolidate specified parcels of conservation lands; provides appropriations & authorizes positions.

- Sponsors: Senate EPC & State Affairs Committee
- Died in Senate EPC Committee

**Relating to Implementation of the Water & Land Conservation
Constitutional Amendment: SB 584- HB 1291**

Terminating certain trust funds within the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission; requiring moneys in land acquisition trust funds created or designated to receive funds under s. 28, Art. X of the State Constitution to be retained in those trust funds; repealing provisions relating to beach erosion control project staffing; authorizing disbursements from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for the beach management plan, etc.

- Sponsors: Senator Dean & Representative Boyd
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**Relating to Ratification of Department of Environmental Protection
Rules: SB 7060- HB 7083**

Ratifying a specified rule relating to liners and leachate collection systems for construction and demolition debris disposal facilities, for the sole and exclusive purpose of satisfying any condition on effectiveness pursuant to s. 120.541(3), F.S., which requires ratification of any rule meeting any specified thresholds of likely adverse impact or increase in regulatory costs, etc

- Sponsors: EPC & Representative Beshears
- Read Second time and Laid on Table to refer to HB 7083

2015 IMPORTANT SESSION DATES

March 3, 2015	Regular Session convenes (Article III, section 3(b), Constitution)
April 21, 2015 (Rule 2.9(2))	50th day—last day for regularly scheduled committee meetings
May 1, 2015	60th day—last day of Regular Session (Article III, section 3(d), Constitution)

2016 IMPORTANT SESSION DATES

September 16-18	Committee Week
October 5-9	Committee Week
October 19-23	Committee Week
November 2-6	Committee Week
November 16-20	Committee Week
November 30- Dec 4	Committee Week
January 12, 2016	Regular Session convenes
March 11	60 th day- last regular day of Session

Budget Highlights:

✓ **Protects the Environment**

- The “KEEP FLORIDA WORKING” budget invests **\$3.5 billion** in funding for agricultural and natural resources. This includes **\$71.5 million** for increased land management and Florida Forever, and more than **\$500 million** for projects to improve the quality and quantity of our water - including **\$106 million** for Everglades restoration and a record **\$45 million** for springs protection.

Protecting Florida’s Everglades:

Over the last 4 years Governor Scott has made protecting the Everglades a top priority by investing more than \$500 million for Everglades restoration. In addition, under the Governor’s leadership, an \$880 million water quality plan was created to ensure, once and for all, that water flowing into the Everglades is free from harmful nutrients. This year, Everglades restoration projects received more than \$106 million, and like Spring projects, more than half of that amount was provided as recurring funding, demonstrating a lasting commitment to the River of Grass.