

## CHAPTER 2017-48

### Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 181

An act relating to natural hazards; creating s. 252.3655, F.S.; creating an interagency workgroup to share information, coordinate ongoing efforts, and collaborate on initiatives relating to natural hazards; defining the term “natural hazards”; requiring certain agencies to designate liaisons to the workgroup; designating the director of the Division of Emergency Management or his or her designee as the liaison to and coordinator of the workgroup; specifying duties and responsibilities of each liaison and the workgroup; requiring the division to prepare an annual report; specifying report requirements; requiring each agency liaison to ensure that the report is posted on his or her agency’s website; requiring the workgroup to submit the report to the Governor and the Legislature; providing an appropriation and authorizing a position; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 252.3655, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

252.3655 Natural hazards interagency workgroup.—

(1)(a) An interagency workgroup is created for the purpose of sharing information on the current and potential impacts of natural hazards throughout the state, coordinating the ongoing efforts of state agencies in addressing the impacts of natural hazards, and collaborating on statewide initiatives to address the impacts of natural hazards. As used in this section, the term “natural hazards” includes, but is not limited to, extreme heat, drought, wildfire, sea-level change, high tides, storm surge, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff, flash floods, inland flooding, and coastal flooding.

(b) Each agency within the executive branch of state government, each water management district, and the Florida Public Service Commission shall select from within such agency a person to be designated as the agency liaison to the workgroup.

(c) The director of the Division of Emergency Management or his or her designee shall serve as the liaison to and coordinator of the workgroup.

(d) Each liaison shall provide information from his or her respective agency on the current and potential impacts of natural hazards to his or her agency, agency resources available to mitigate against natural hazards, and efforts made by the agency to address the impacts of natural hazards.

(e) The workgroup shall meet in person or by teleconference on a quarterly basis to share information, leverage agency resources, coordinate ongoing efforts, and provide information for inclusion in the annual progress report submitted pursuant to subsection (2).

(2)(a) On behalf of the workgroup, the Division of Emergency Management shall prepare an annual progress report on the implementation of the state's hazard mitigation plan, developed and submitted in accordance with 42 U.S.C. s. 5165 and any implementing regulations, as it relates to natural hazards. At a minimum, the annual progress report must:

1. Assess the relevance, level, and significance of current agency efforts to address the impacts of natural hazards; and

2. Strategize and prioritize ongoing efforts to address the impacts of natural hazards.

(b) Each liaison is responsible for ensuring that the workgroup's annual progress report is posted on his or her agency's website.

(c) By January 1, 2019, and each year thereafter, the workgroup shall submit the annual progress report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Section 2. For the 2017-2018 fiscal year, the sums of \$84,738 in recurring funds and \$4,046 in nonrecurring funds are appropriated from the Grants and Donations Trust Fund to the Division of Emergency Management, and one full-time equivalent position and associated salary rate of 47,000 are authorized for the purpose of implementing this act.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.

Approved by the Governor June 2, 2017.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 2, 2017.