

CHAPTER 2023-227

House Bill No. 407

An act relating to the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern; amending s. 380.0555, F.S.; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to expend certain funds for the purpose of entering into financial assistance agreements with the City of Apalachicola for specified surface water and groundwater quality improvement projects within the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern; providing for expiration of the expenditure; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (11) is added to section 380.0555, Florida Statutes, to read:

380.0555 Apalachicola Bay Area; protection and designation as area of critical state concern.—

(11) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AGREEMENTS.—Beginning in the 2023-2024 fiscal year and continuing through the 2027-2028 fiscal year, the Department of Environmental Protection may expend up to \$5 million each fiscal year for the purpose of entering into financial assistance agreements with the City of Apalachicola to implement projects that improve surface water and groundwater quality within the Apalachicola Bay Area of Critical State Concern, including the construction of stormwater management facilities and central sewage collection facilities, installation of onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems, direct and indirect potable reuse, and other water quality and water supply projects. This subsection expires on June 30, 2028.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Approved by the Governor June 12, 2023.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 12, 2023.