

CHAPTER 99-166

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1424

An act relating to sewage treatment facility discharges; prohibiting new discharges, or increased pollutant loadings from existing sewage treatment facilities into coastal waters within Pasco County or waters tributary thereto; requiring elimination of existing discharges into coastal waters within Pasco County or waters tributary thereto; authorizing the Department of Environmental Protection to grant exceptions under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Elimination of sewage treatment facility discharges into coastal waters within Pasco County.—

(1) No new discharges, or increased pollutant loadings from existing sewage treatment facilities into the coastal waters of the state within Pasco County, which include, but are not limited to, Anclote Anchorage, Sandy Bay, Cross Bayou, Millers Bayou, Boggy Bay, Hope Bayou, Lighter Bayou, or Fillman Bayou, or into waters tributary thereto, are permitted except as provided in subsection (3).

(2) All existing sewage treatment facility discharges into the coastal waters of the state within Pasco County or into waters tributary thereto, as described in subsection (1), must be eliminated before July 1, 2004, except as provided in subsection (3).

(3) The Department of Environmental Protection may grant an exception to subsections (1) or (2) only in the following circumstances:

(a) The applicant conclusively demonstrates that no other practical alternative exists, the discharge will receive advanced waste treatment as defined in s. 403.086(4), or a higher level of treatment, and the applicant conclusively demonstrates that the proposed discharge will not result in a violation of water quality standards; or

(b) The applicant's discharge is a limited wet weather surface water discharge serving as a backup to a reuse system pursuant to s. 403.086(7)(a) and will not cause a violation of state water quality standards and is subject to the requirements of department rules.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 13, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 13, 1999.