

TAMPA BAY

2022 ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION WATCHLIST

The following list includes proposed legislation that, if passed, could positively or negatively affect the Tampa Bay estuary and watershed. The list is informational only.

HB/SB #	TITLE	DESCRIPTION
SB 832/HB 56	Implementation of the Recommendations of the Blue-Green Algae Task Force	Implements additional recommendations from the Governor's Blue-Green Algae Task Force, including requiring septic tank inspections at least once every five years, prioritizing waterway clean-up plans (BMAPs) with the greatest impact on water quality, and requiring an assessment of BMAP cost-effectiveness
SB 856/HB 309	Private Provider Inspections of Onsite Sewage Treatment and Disposal Systems	Prohibits the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) from charging a fee for the inspection of an onsite sewage treatment and disposal system (septic tank) by a private provider and requires inspections to be performed only by private providers. The septic tank owner would be required to notify DEP prior to the scheduled inspection.
SB 608/HB 303	Sanitary Sewer Lateral Inspection Programs	Allows county governments to access sanitary sewer laterals for inspection and repairs, and requires specific pipe system design and inspection techniques. If a county decides to repair a deteriorated lateral line they could use state or local funds allocated for environmental preservation or water quality protection.
SB 604/HB 393	Safe Waterways Act	Requires the Florida Department of Health to monitor public bathing locations, notify local governments of bacterial contamination and require local governments to post warning signs.

SB 1000	Nutrient Application Rates	Amends agricultural fertilizer regulations to define “certified professionals” and “rate tailoring;” authorizing producers to use written recommendations from certified professionals to tailor their recommended nutrient application rates under certain circumstances; requiring revisions to recommended application rates by certain state universities and Florida College System institutions to authorize rate tailoring, etc.
SB 904/HB 807	Agricultural Practices	Requires the Department of Agriculture to develop and adopt rules governing agricultural best management practices or other measures to reduce water pollution, and impose penalties for failing to follow them.
SB 1210/HB 909	Development of Current or Former Agricultural Land	Creates a presumption that the application of pesticides on agricultural lands is being lawfully applied and provides for certain agricultural lands to be exempt from any further regulation by FDEP. The bill also allows landowners to voluntarily apply for Brownfield site rehabilitation.
SB 198/HB 349	Seagrass Mitigation Banks	Allows the Board of Trustees to establish seagrass mitigation banks in state-owned submerged lands to offset “unavoidable” loss elsewhere of seagrass from coastal development projects.
SB 7012/HB 1151	Per- and Polyfluoralkyl Substances Task Force	Creates a task force to develop recommendations for the regulation of per- and polyfluoralkyl (PFAS) substances, including establishing a drinking water and groundwater standard, methods and funding for cleanup, and waste management methods. The task force would be required to meet no later than October 2022.

SB 690/HB 691	Resilience-related Advisory Committees	Permits resiliency-related committees that are geographically spread to meet remotely via communications media technology (CMT). The CMT must allow for all attendees to be able to audibly communicate, as would be allowed if they were physically present. The bill provides for the public notice of such meetings to detail how interested members of the public may participate.
SB 224/HB 105	Regulation of Smoking in Public Places	Authorizes counties and municipalities to restrict smoking at public beaches and public parks and prohibits smoking at state parks.
SB 1816/ HB 1377	Land Acquisition Trust Fund	SB 1816 (Stewart) sets a minimum annual funding level for Florida Forever of \$100 million from the Land Acquisition Trust Fund. It would extend the deadline for payments on bonds issued to fund acquisitions under the program from 2040 to 2054, allowing issuance of new 20-year bonds. It would prohibit funds being spent on agency administrative expenses. HB 1377 (Roth) would set a minimum funding level of \$350 million or 40 percent of the Land Acquisition Trust Fund for Florida Forever. It would revise the Florida Forever funding formula.
SB 1940	Statewide Flooding and Sea Level Rise Resilience	Establishes the Office of Resiliency within the Executive Office of the Governor to be headed by a Chief Resilience Officer.
SB 1426/HB 965	Water Quality Enhancement Areas	Allows adverse water quality impacts to be offset through water quality enhancement areas and offset credit purchasing. Enhancement credits would be defined as a standard unit of measure to represent a quantity of pollutants removed.
SB 1744/HB 1339	Phosphogypsum Stacks	Requires FDEP to create and maintain an online database, accessible to the public, that

		lists all phosphogypsum stacks in the state by county, along with summaries of inspections, imminent hazards, abatement actions, and material violations
HB 1077/SB 1434	Public Financing of Potentially At-risk Structures and Infrastructure	Expands the state requirement for sea-level rise impact studies on public projects from coastal areas to inland areas at increased risk of flooding due to sea-level rise.