

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to dredging and beach restoration  
 3           projects; amending s. 403.816, F.S.; directing the  
 4           Department of Environmental Protection to require, as  
 5           a condition of permits issued for certain dredging and  
 6           beach restoration projects, that any adverse impact  
 7           analysis conducted for the activity meet certain  
 8           requirements; requiring a local government to provide  
 9           notice of its intent to conduct an analysis to certain  
 10          adjacent local governments; providing an effective  
 11          date.

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 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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15           Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 403.816, Florida  
 16           Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (4), and a new  
 17           subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

18           403.816 Permits for maintenance dredging of deepwater  
 19           ports and beach restoration projects.—

20           (3) As a condition of a permit issued for a project  
 21           pursuant to this section, the department shall require that any  
 22           analysis to determine the adverse impacts of the activity on the  
 23           natural habitat be conducted by an independent contractor  
 24           selected by the local government and in a manner prescribed by  
 25           the department. The independent contractor conducting the

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26 analysis may not be associated with any project of the  
27 contractor performing the activity for the local government for  
28 a period of 5 years before the commencement of the analysis or  
29 for a period of 5 years after the completion of the analysis.  
30 The local government shall provide written notice of its intent  
31 to have an analysis conducted to adjacent local governments that  
32 may be impacted by the activity.

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