



MEMORANDUM

To: SEFLUC

From: Edward de la Parte and Nicolas Porter

Date: February 5, 2025

RE: 2025 Legislation – SEFLUC Update

The following is a summary of legislation which may be of interest to the Southeast Florida Utility Council (“SEFLUC”). A summary of proposed changes and an analysis of impacts to SEFLUC are presented for each bill. In some cases, because of the length of the bill, the analysis may be limited to only those provisions impacting SEFLUC. In the event a more extensive summary and analysis is required, a separate memo addressing the specific legislation can be prepared upon request.

The 2025 Regular Session begins March 7 and ends May 2.

Speaker of the House – Daniel Perez (Miami)

Senate President – Ben Albritton (Wauchula)

List of Bills Contained in Memo:

1. **HB 11/SB 202 – Municipal Water and Sewer Rates (Robinson/Jones)**
2. **HB 73/SB 156 – Safe Waterways Act (Gossett-Seidman/Rodriguez)**
3. **SB 50/HB 371 – Nature-based Methods for Improving Coastal Resilience (Garcia/Mooney, Jr.)**
4. **HB 341 – Identification Cards for Public Works Employees (Woodson)**

Bill Summaries and Status

1. HB 11/SB 202 Municipal Water and Sewer Rates (Robinson/Jones)

Summary:

- Any municipality providing water or sewer service to customers in another municipality using facilities located in the recipient municipality must charge the same rates and fees to the recipient municipality customers as within its own municipal boundaries.
- Essentially the same as 2024 HB 47, which failed to pass.
- SB 202 includes definitions of “Facility” which includes intake station, pumping station, or well, but excludes pipes, tanks, or conduits.

Status:

HB 11

12/06/24	HOUSE	Filed	
01/06/25	HOUSE	Referred to Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee;	Intergovernmental Affairs Subcommittee; Commerce Committee
	HOUSE	Now in Economic Infrastructure Subcommittee	

SB 202

01/13/25	SENATE	Filed	
01/29/25	SENATE	Referred to Regulated Industries; Community Affairs; Rules	

2. HB 73/SB 156 – Safe Waterways Act (Gossett-Seidman/Rodriguez)

Summary:

- Modified version of 2024 HB 165, which was vetoed by the Governor.
- Requires report by DOH on bacteriological sampling of beach waters and public bathing places, recommendation by DOH and DEP regarding transfer of sampling from DOH to DEP, and continuing role of county health departments in collection and tracking of bacteriological data, and interagency agreement between DOH and DEP regarding coordination and transfer of authority.
- Requires DEP to adopt rules requiring owners of beach waters and bathing places to notify DEP and resample after detection of an established standard.
- Requires DEP to immediately issue health advisories and require closure of beach waters and public bathing places that fail to meet standard if determined necessary to protect health, safety and welfare.
- Requires local governments to immediately notify DEP of an incident that may affect the quality of beach waters or public bathing places within their jurisdictions.
- Local governments responsible for posting and maintaining health advisory signs prescribed by DEP.

- Establishes public statewide interagency database for reporting of fecal indicator bacteria date for beach waters and public bathing places.

Status:

HB 73

12/27/24 HOUSE Filed
 01/15/25 HOUSE Referred to Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee;
 Health Professions & Programs Subcommittee; Budget Committee; State Affairs Committee
 HOUSE Now in Natural Resources & Disasters Subcommittee

SB 156

01/09/25 SENATE Filed
 01/24/25 SENATE Referred to Health Policy; Appropriations Committee on
 Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy

**3. SB 50/HB 371 – Nature-based Methods for Improving Coastal Resilience
 (Garcia/Mooney, Jr.)**

Summary:

- Directs the Florida Flood Hub for Applied Research and Innovation to develop design guidelines and standards for green and gray infrastructure, and evaluate effects and integration into existing systems.
- Requires DEP to adopt rules governing nature-based methods to address coastal erosion, protect mangrove stands and other natural features, and mitigate impacts from new developments.
- Requires DEP to encourage local government partnerships to implement green infrastructure projects.
- Requires feasibility study assessing the impact of nature-based methods on coastal flood risk reduction, insurance premiums, and community ratings.

4. HB 341 – Identification Cards for Public Works Employees (Woodson)

Summary:

- Requires Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to prepare a report by January 1, 2026 regarding the potential issuance of identification cards for public works employees as first responders.

HB 341

02/03/25 HOUSE Filed