

Grants Allotted Under Florida Resilient Grant Program Expanded and Consideration of Sea Level Rise Mandated in State Financed Projects

[House Bill 111](#) amends section 380.093, Florida Statutes, to include potential grants for feasibility studies to reduce flooding and sea level rise, and provides for water management district support of the Florida Food Hub for Applied Research and Innovation.

The bill prohibits state-financed constructors from commencing construction of a potentially at-risk structure without first conducting and submitting a Sea Level Impact Projection (“SLIP”) study to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (“FDEP”). Accordingly, the FDEP must now adopt standards by which state-financed constructors can conduct a SLIP study. These new standards must use scientifically accepted approaches to assess the flooding risks relating to potentially at-risk structures over their expected life or 50 years, whichever is less. Mitigation efforts, industry practices and public safety must also be accounted for in this standard. Failure to conduct a SLIP study in accordance with this section allows the FDEP to bring a civil action against state-financed constructors. This rule cannot be applied retroactively.

If multiple potentially at-risk structures or infrastructure are to be built concurrently within one project, a state-financed constructor may conduct and submit one SLIP study for the entire project.

HB 111 was signed into law and became effective on July 1, 2023.