

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to natural hazards; creating s.
 3 252.3655, F.S.; creating an interagency workgroup to
 4 share information, coordinate ongoing efforts, and
 5 collaborate on initiatives relating to natural
 6 hazards; defining the term "natural hazards";
 7 requiring certain agencies to designate liaisons to
 8 the workgroup; designating the director of the
 9 Division of Emergency Management or his or her
 10 designee as the liaison to and coordinator of the
 11 workgroup; specifying duties and responsibilities of
 12 each liaison and the workgroup; requiring the division
 13 to prepare an annual report; specifying report
 14 requirements; requiring each agency liaison to ensure
 15 that the report is posted on his or her agency's
 16 website; requiring the workgroup to submit the report
 17 to the Governor and the Legislature; providing an
 18 effective date.

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

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 22 Section 1. Section 252.3655, Florida Statutes, is created
 23 to read:

24 252.3655 Natural hazards interagency workgroup.-
 25 (1) (a) An interagency workgroup is created for the purpose

26 | of sharing information on the current and potential impacts of
27 | natural hazards throughout the state, coordinating the ongoing
28 | efforts of state agencies in addressing the impacts of natural
29 | hazards, and collaborating on statewide initiatives to address
30 | the impacts of natural hazards. As used in this section, the
31 | term "natural hazards" includes, but is not limited to, extreme
32 | heat, drought, wildfire, sea-level change, high tides, storm
33 | surge, saltwater intrusion, stormwater runoff, flash floods,
34 | inland flooding, and coastal flooding.

35 | (b) Each agency within the executive branch of state
36 | government, each water management district, and the Florida
37 | Public Service Commission shall select from within such agency a
38 | person to be designated as the agency liaison to the workgroup.

39 | (c) The director of the Division of Emergency Management
40 | or his or her designee shall serve as the liaison to and
41 | coordinator of the workgroup.

42 | (d) Each liaison shall provide information from his or her
43 | respective agency on the current and potential impacts of
44 | natural hazards to his or her agency, agency resources available
45 | to mitigate against natural hazards, and efforts made by the
46 | agency to address the impacts of natural hazards.

47 | (e) The workgroup shall meet in person or by
48 | teleconference on a quarterly basis to share information,
49 | leverage agency resources, coordinate ongoing efforts, and
50 | provide information for inclusion in the annual progress report

51 submitted pursuant to subsection (2).

52 (2) (a) On behalf of the workgroup, the Division of
53 Emergency Management shall prepare an annual progress report on
54 the implementation of the state's hazard mitigation plan,
55 developed and submitted in accordance with 42 U.S.C. s. 5165 and
56 any implementing regulations, as it relates to natural hazards.
57 At a minimum, the annual progress report must:

58 1. Assess the relevance, level, and significance of
59 current agency efforts to address the impacts of natural
60 hazards; and

61 2. Strategize and prioritize ongoing efforts to address
62 the impacts of natural hazards.

63 (b) Each liaison is responsible for ensuring that the
64 workgroup's annual progress report is posted on his or her
65 agency's website.

66 (c) By January 1, 2019, and each year thereafter, the
67 workgroup shall submit the annual progress report to the
68 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
69 House of Representatives.

70 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.