

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to public utility power restoration;
3 amending s. 252.35, F.S.; requiring the Division of
4 Emergency Management's state comprehensive emergency
5 management plan to include guidelines for the
6 restoration of electric service to certain critical
7 end-use facilities in its postdisaster response and
8 recovery activities; providing an effective date.
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10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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12 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
13 252.35, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14 252.35 Emergency management powers; Division of Emergency
15 Management.—

16 (2) The division is responsible for carrying out the
17 provisions of ss. 252.31-252.90. In performing its duties, the
18 division shall:

19 (a) Prepare a state comprehensive emergency management
20 plan, which shall be integrated into and coordinated with the
21 emergency management plans and programs of the Federal
22 Government. The division must adopt the plan as a rule in
23 accordance with chapter 120. The plan shall be implemented by a
24 continuous, integrated comprehensive emergency management
25 program. The plan must contain provisions to ensure that the

26 | state is prepared for emergencies and minor, major, and
27 | catastrophic disasters, and the division shall work closely with
28 | local governments and agencies and organizations with emergency
29 | management responsibilities in preparing and maintaining the
30 | plan. The state comprehensive emergency management plan shall be
31 | operations oriented and:

32 | 1. Include an evacuation component that includes specific
33 | regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes
34 | intergovernmental coordination of evacuation activities. This
35 | component must, at a minimum: contain guidelines for lifting
36 | tolls on state highways; ensure coordination pertaining to
37 | evacuees crossing county lines; set forth procedures for
38 | directing people caught on evacuation routes to safe shelter;
39 | establish strategies for ensuring sufficient, reasonably priced
40 | fueling locations along evacuation routes; and establish
41 | policies and strategies for emergency medical evacuations.

42 | 2. Include a shelter component that includes specific
43 | regional and interregional planning provisions and promotes
44 | coordination of shelter activities between the public, private,
45 | and nonprofit sectors. This component must, at a minimum:
46 | contain strategies to ensure the availability of adequate public
47 | shelter space in each region of the state; establish strategies
48 | for refuge-of-last-resort programs; provide strategies to assist
49 | local emergency management efforts to ensure that adequate
50 | staffing plans exist for all shelters, including medical and

51 security personnel; provide for a postdisaster communications
52 system for public shelters; establish model shelter guidelines
53 for operations, registration, inventory, power generation
54 capability, information management, and staffing; and set forth
55 policy guidance for sheltering people with special needs.

56 3. Include a postdisaster response and recovery component
57 that includes specific regional and interregional planning
58 provisions and promotes intergovernmental coordination of
59 postdisaster response and recovery activities. This component
60 must provide for postdisaster response and recovery strategies
61 according to whether a disaster is minor, major, or
62 catastrophic. The postdisaster response and recovery component
63 must, at a minimum: establish the structure of the state's
64 postdisaster response and recovery organization; establish
65 procedures for activating the state's plan; set forth policies
66 used to guide postdisaster response and recovery activities and
67 guidelines for the restoration of electric service with
68 prioritization of critical end-use facilities, including, but
69 not limited to, critical medical facilities, including hospitals
70 licensed under part I of chapter 395 and nursing homes licensed
71 under part II of chapter 400; describe the chain of command
72 during the postdisaster response and recovery period; describe
73 initial and continuous postdisaster response and recovery
74 actions; identify the roles and responsibilities of each
75 involved agency and organization; provide for a comprehensive

76 | communications plan; establish procedures for monitoring mutual
77 | aid agreements; provide for rapid impact assessment teams;
78 | ensure the availability of an effective statewide urban search
79 | and rescue program coordinated with the fire services; ensure
80 | the existence of a comprehensive statewide medical care and
81 | relief plan administered by the Department of Health; and
82 | establish systems for coordinating volunteers and accepting and
83 | distributing donated funds and goods.

84 | 4. Include additional provisions addressing aspects of
85 | preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation as determined
86 | necessary by the division.

87 | 5. Address the need for coordinated and expeditious
88 | deployment of state resources, including the Florida National
89 | Guard. In the case of an imminent major disaster, procedures
90 | should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard, and,
91 | in the case of an imminent catastrophic disaster, procedures
92 | should address predeployment of the Florida National Guard and
93 | the United States Armed Forces.

94 | 6. Establish a system of communications and warning to
95 | ensure that the state's population and emergency management
96 | agencies are warned of developing emergency situations and can
97 | communicate emergency response decisions.

98 | 7. Establish guidelines and schedules for annual exercises
99 | that evaluate the ability of the state and its political
100 | subdivisions to respond to minor, major, and catastrophic

101 disasters and support local emergency management agencies. Such
102 exercises shall be coordinated with local governments and, to
103 the extent possible, the Federal Government.

104 8. Assign lead and support responsibilities to state
105 agencies and personnel for emergency support functions and other
106 support activities.

107
108 The complete state comprehensive emergency management plan shall
109 be submitted to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
110 House of Representatives, and the Governor on February 1 of
111 every even-numbered year.

112 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.