

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Commerce Committee

BILL: SB 2474

INTRODUCER: Commerce Committee

SUBJECT: A Review of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Under the Government Accountability Act

DATE: March 24, 2008 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Earlywine	Cooper	CM	Favorable
2.	_____	_____	GA	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

This bill reenacts provisions relating to the divisions of Licensing, Standards, and Consumer Services of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (department).

This bill reenacts paragraphs (e), (j) and (m) of s. 20.14(2), of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Sections 11.901-.920, F.S., are known as the Florida Government Accountability Act. Under this act, most state agencies and their respective advisory committees are subject to a “sunset” review process to determine whether the agency should be retained, modified or abolished.

An agency subject to review is scheduled to be abolished on June 30 following the date of review as specified in s. 11.905, F.S., provided the Legislature finds that all state laws the agency had responsibility to implement or enforce have been repealed, revised, or reassigned to another remaining agency and that adequate provision has been made to transfer certain duties and obligations to a successor agency. If an agency is not abolished, continued, or reorganized, the agency shall continue to be subject to annual sunset review by the Legislature.

The Senate Commerce Committee is the primary sunset review committee for the divisions of Licensing, Standards, and Consumer Services within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. As part of the Sunset Review, the committee held several committee meetings and heard testimony regarding the duties and responsibilities of these divisions. The

committee has also reviewed and considered the report and recommendations in Interim Project Report 2008-207.

Based upon all the information considered by the committee and in accordance with ss. 11.908 and 11.911, F.S., the committee recommended the following:

- The Legislature should continue the divisions of Licensing, Standards, and Consumer Services within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- The Legislature should continue the department's advisory councils and commissions related to the divisions of Licensing, Standards, and Consumer Services within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

SB 2474 incorporates the recommendations of the committee.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 reenacts s. 20.14(2)(e), (j), and (m), F.S., relating to the divisions of Licensing, Standards, and Consumer Services of the department. Reenacting these provisions will continue the programs and services provided by these divisions through the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Section 2 provides an effective date of July 1, 2008.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.