



SENATE BILL 445: Regulatory Reform Act of 2026, Sec. 17.5: Private Road and Bridge Program Modification

2025-2026 General Assembly

Analysis of: S.L. 2026-59, Sec. 17.5

Date: August 24, 2026

Prepared by: Legislative Analysis
Division Staff

The Private Road and Bridge Repair and Replacement Program (Program) was established in Part II-C of S.L. 2025-2 within the Department of Public Safety, Division of Emergency Management (NCEM), to assist with the repair and replacement of private roads and bridges damaged or destroyed by Hurricane Helene.

Section 17.5 of S.L. 2026-59 (Senate Bill 445) directs NCEM to develop a private bridge design standard no later than October 10, 2026. This section further amends the Program to allow for qualified design-build delivery of certain low-cost private bridges in conjunction with a licensed general contractor and professional engineer.

This section is retroactively effective July 1, 2026.

Kara McCraw
Director



* S 4 4 5 - S M B R - 1 5 4 S L - V - 2 *

Legislative Analysis
Division
919-733-2578