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Governor Signs Port of Palm Beach Local Bill into Law

Wellington, Fla. – Late last night, the Governor signed [HB 915](#) - Port of Palm Beach, Palm Beach County into law.

The Port of Palm Beach is an independent special taxing district established under provisions of Florida Law 110 years ago. Since the Port's creation, it has significantly expanded in its size. When this law goes into effect, it will update the Port of Palm Beach's charter to make it consistent with the scope of the Port's daily operations. Located in Palm Beach County, the Port covers a land area of 971 square miles or roughly 50% of the county area. The Port of Palm Beach District has statutory authority to levy ad valorem millage tax but has not done so since 1975.

Thousands in Palm Beach County and South Florida rely on the Port for work. The Port of Palm Beach employs roughly 9,000 people, contributes more than \$300 million in business revenue, and raises \$12 million in state and federal taxes.

“The numbers do not lie. The Port of Palm Beach is an economic engine for South Florida. The Port of Palm Beach has been an asset to Palm Beach County for decades, and this new law helps to ensure the Port’s success,” said **Representative Willhite**. “I am proud to report that this bill has been signed into law. Now, the Port’s charter will be updated to keep up with the size and scope of the Port’s daily operations, and the Port Commissioners will receive a small pay raise

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