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Port of Palm Beach Local Bill Passes Final Committee

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Today the State Affairs Committee unanimously approved **[HB 915](#)**, a bill relating to the Port of Palm Beach. The bill now heads to the House Floor.

[HB 915](#), a bill whose purpose is to update the Port of Palm Beach’s charter to make it consistent with the size and scope of the of the Port’s daily operations. The Port of Palm Beach District is a 110-year-old independent special taxing district, established under provisions of Florida Law. 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.

After filing this legislation, **Representative Willhite** issued the following statement.

“The Port of Palm Beach is an economic engine for South Florida. Thousands of people rely on the Port of Palm Beach for work, making it one of Palm Beach County’s largest employers. The size and scope of the Port has grown exponentially since it was originally established. This is an important piece of legislation that updates the Port’s charter to amend some obsolete language, and give the Port Commissioners a small pay raise. The Port of Palm Beach has been an asset to Palm Beach County for decades, and it is crucial that we do what we can to ensure the Port’s success.”

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