

# Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

October 11, 2017 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM 12 HOB

Meeting Packet

# Committee Meeting Notice HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

### Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

**Start Date and Time:** 

Wednesday, October 11, 2017 01:00 pm

**End Date and Time:** 

Wednesday, October 11, 2017 03:00 pm

Location:

**12 HOB** 

**Duration:** 

10/04/2017

2.00 hrs

### Consideration of the following bill(s):

HB 107 Veteran Identification by Combee, Williamson

Overview of special districts declared inactive and special district dissolution process

Leagis ®

### HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #:

HB 107 Veteran Identification

SPONSOR(S): Combee and others

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 328

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF		
1) Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee		Renner J.R.	Miller	ENYM	
Transportation & Tourism Appropriations     Subcommittee					
3) Government Accountability Committee					

### **SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

For the roughly 1.5 million veterans living in Florida, there is no uniform veteran identification card that can be used as proof of military service for the purpose of obtaining discounts or waivers from various license and registration fees. Rather, veterans rely on cards issued by the Department of Defense or United States Department of Veterans Affairs as proof. In Florida, a driver license or identification card with the "V" designation issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) or a Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) card for veterans with certain disabilities may be used as proof of veteran status.

Currently, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the Department of Financial Services will waive various license and registration fees for certain businesses and professions if a veteran provides a copy of the DD Form 214 or another acceptable form of identification as specified by FDVA.

The bill directs DHSMV, in cooperation with FDVA, to create a veteran identification card to be used as proof of veteran status for the purpose of obtaining discounts. The card must be issued by mail to any honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces who provides a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214; a copy of a valid. unexpired driver license or identification card or another form of photographic identification; and payment of \$10, which must be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. Additionally, the bill adds the identification card as proof of veteran status in order for a veteran to obtain a waiver for license and registration fees for certain businesses and professions. The bill also provides the veteran identification card may be used as proof of veteran status for the expedited processing of an application for a license to carry concealed weapons or firearms.

The bill will have an indeterminate, though likely insignificant negative fiscal impact to state expenditures. It does not appear to have a fiscal impact on local governments.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives. STORAGE NAME: h0107.LFV.DOCX

**DATE: 10/3/2017** 

### **FULL ANALYSIS**

### I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

### A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

### **Current Situation**

### **Veteran Identification Cards**

Currently, United States military veterans<sup>1</sup> do not have one uniform veteran identification card available to them that proves military service.

On July 20, 2015, Congress enacted the "Veterans Identification Card Act 2015." The Act directs the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) to issue a veteran's identification card to a requesting veteran who is neither entitled to military retired pay nor enrolled in the VA system for patient enrollment. The card is required to display the veteran's name and photograph and serve as proof that the veteran has a DD Form 2143 or other official document in his or her military personnel file that describes the veteran's military service. The identification card cannot be used as proof of eligibility for any federal benefits and does not grant access to military installations. It is estimated that the cards will be implemented in 2017, at the earliest, and the price for the identification card is not yet determined.

Currently, certain veterans may be eligible for other methods of identification that may prove veteran status including, but not limited to, the following:

- Veteran Health Identification Card<sup>5</sup> This card is issued to veterans enrolled in the VA health care system and is used for identification and check-in at VA appointments.
- **DD Form 2 (Retired) U.S. Uniformed Services ID**<sup>6</sup> This card is issued to retired Uniform Service<sup>7</sup> members entitled to pay, members on the temporary disability retired list, and members on the permanent disability retired list.
- DD Form 1173 U.S. Uniformed Services ID and Privilege Card<sup>8</sup> This card is issued to Medal of Honor recipients, former members in receipt of retired pay, 100 percent disabled veterans, and other benefits-eligible categories as described in DoD policy.
- DD Form 2765 Department of Defense/Uniformed Services ID and Privilege Card<sup>9</sup> This card is issued to Medal of Honor recipients, 100 percent disabled veterans, former members in receipt of retired pay, other benefits-eligible categories as described in the Department of Defense (DoD) policy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Section 1.01(14), F.S., defines the term "veteran" as a person who served in the active military, naval, or air service who was discharged or released under honorable conditions only or who later received an upgraded discharge under honorable conditions, notwithstanding any action by the VA on individuals discharged or released with other than honorable discharge.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Veterans Identification Card Act 2015, Pub. L. No. 114-31, H.R. 91, 114<sup>th</sup> Cong. (July 20, 2015).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Each veteran is issued a Department of Defense DD Form 214. This form contains information normally needed to verify military service of benefits, retirement, employment, membership in veterans' organizations, and the veteran's condition of discharge. *See* http://www.dd214.us/ (last visited September 22, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Congress.gov, H.R. 91-Veterans Identification Card Act 2015, available at: https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/91 (last viewed September 22, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs site on *Veteran Identification Cards*, available at: https://iris.custhelp.com/app/answers/detail/a\_id/911 (last viewed September 25, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Department of Defense Common Access Card site on *Uniformed Services ID Card*, available at: www.cac.mil/uniformed-services-id-card/ (last viewed September 25, 2017).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 10 U.S.C. §101(a)(5) defines "uniformed services" as consisting of the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Public Health Service, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> *Id*.

### **State-Issued Veteran Identification Cards**

### Florida

Florida does not have a uniform veteran identification card. Rather, veterans can show proof of status by having a "V" designation on either their Florida identification card<sup>10</sup> or their Florida driver license<sup>11</sup> for an additional \$1 fee plus the renewal fee, or a \$2 fee if the veteran wants to purchase a replacement credential for the sole purpose of adding the "V" designation. The designation can be obtained when a veteran submits a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another acceptable form specified by the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV). <sup>12</sup>

Additionally, FDVA may issue an identification card to any veteran who is a permanent resident of Florida and who has been determined by the VA to have a 100 percent service-connected permanent and total disability rating, or who has been determined to have a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and is receiving disability retirement pay from any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces.<sup>13</sup>

### Virginia

Virginia offers a veteran identification card<sup>14</sup> that is issued by the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) and provides proof of veteran status in order for a veteran to receive discounts from retailers and restaurants. The design of the card shows the veteran's photo, name, branch of service, and signature. To be eliqible, the veteran must:

- Be a Virginia resident;
- Hold an unexpired Virginia commercial driver's license, driver's license, learner's permit or DMV-issued ID card;
- Have served either in the active U.S. Armed Forces or for more than 180 days in the Virginia National Guard or U.S. Reserves:
- Have received an honorable discharge;
- Present a photocopy of a veteran service proof document that provides the branch of service, discharge date and discharge status (e.g. DD Form 214);
- Consent that the information on the application will be shared with the Virginia Department of Veteran Services; and
- Pay \$10.

### Delaware

Delaware-issued veteran identification cards are available free of charge to any Delaware veteran that served in the U.S. military, was honorably discharged, has a valid Delaware driver license or identification card, and provides accepted proof of military service.<sup>15</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Section 322.051, F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Section 322.14(1)(d), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> A "veteran" designation will replace the "V" designation when the new driver license and identification card design comes out at the end of 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Section 295.17, F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles website on *Veteran Identification Cards*, available at https://www.dmv.virginia.gov/drivers/#id/vet\_id.asp (last visited September 25, 2017).

<sup>15</sup> State of Delaware-Division of Motor Vehicles, Veteran Identification Cards, available at

### Registration and License Fee Waivers

### Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS)

Chapter 2016-166, Laws of Florida, among other matters, implemented various registration and license fee waivers for veterans, their spouses, and their businesses for several professions regulated by DACS.

The first-time application fee for a specified veteran of the U.S. Armed Forces, his or her spouse, or a business entity in which he or she has a majority ownership is waived for the following classes of licenses: land surveyor and mapper;<sup>16</sup> health studio;<sup>17</sup> commercial telephone seller;<sup>18</sup> telemarketing salesperson;<sup>19</sup> movers and moving broker;<sup>20</sup> liquefied petroleum gas related license;<sup>21</sup> pawnbroker;<sup>22</sup> motor vehicle repair shop; and<sup>23</sup> sellers of travel.<sup>24</sup> To qualify for the fee waiver, the veteran, his or her spouse, or his or her business must submit an application within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from the U.S. Armed Forces and provide a copy of his or her DD Form 214, or another form of identification as specified by the FDVA; a valid marriage license when applicable; and proof of ownership interest, where applicable.

The initial application fee for licensure for veterans who apply within 24 months of their honorable discharge from the armed forces is waived for the following licenses:

- Private investigator, private investigator intern, private investigative/security agency manager, or private investigative agency manager;
- Security officer instructor or security manager;
- Recovery agent, recovery agent intern, recovery agent manager, or recovery agent instructor;
   and
- Firearms instructor. 25

The veteran must submit a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another form of identification as specified by the FDVA in order to receive the waiver.

The initial fee for licensure for veterans who apply within 24 months of their honorable discharge from the armed forces is waived for the following licenses:

- Private investigative/security agency manager or a firearms instructor;<sup>26</sup>
- Private investigator, private investigator intern, or private investigative agency manager;<sup>27</sup>
- Security officer, security officer instructor, or a security manager;<sup>28</sup> and
- Recovery agent, recovery agent intern, recovery agent manager, or recovery agent instructor.<sup>29</sup>

The veteran must submit a copy of his or her DD Form 214 or another form of identification as specified by the FDVA in order to receive the waiver.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Section 472.015(3), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Section 501.015(2), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Section 501.605(5)(b), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Section 501.607(2)(b), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Section 507.03(3)(b), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Section 527.02(3)(b), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Section 539.001(3)(c), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Section 559.904(3)(b), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Section 559.928(2)(c), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Section 493.6105(1)(c), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Section 493.6107(6), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Section 493.6202(4), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Section 493.6302(4), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Section 493.6402(4), F.S.

Lastly, in order to receive an expedited processing of an application for a license to carry concealed weapons or firearms, a veteran must submit a copy of the DD Form 214 or another acceptable form of identification as specified by FDVA.<sup>30</sup>

### Department of Financial Services (DFS)

Veterans who have retired within 24 months are exempt from the application filing fee for licensure as an insurance agent, customer representative, adjuster, service representative, managing general agent, or reinsurance intermediary. The applicant must submit a military service record, military personnel file, veteran record, discharge paper, or separation document, or a separation document that indicates the veteran was honorably discharged.<sup>31</sup>

### **Effect of Proposed Changes**

The bill requires DHSMV, in cooperation with FDVA, to create a veteran identification card to be used as proof of veteran status in order to obtain discounts or waivers offered to veterans for the exchange of goods and services. The card would be separate from a DHSMV-issued driver license or personal identification card. The bill provides criteria for the design of the card which must include a full-face photograph of the veteran, the veteran's full name, branch of service, date of discharge, and the words "Proof of veteran status only."

DHSMV must issue the card by mail to any honorably discharged veteran of any branch of the U.S. Armed Forces who provides the following:

- A copy of the veteran's DD Form 214 as issued by the DoD;
- A copy of the veteran's valid, unexpired Florida driver license or identification card or another form of photographic identification that is acceptable to DHSMV; and
- Payment of a \$10 fee, which must be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.

The bill prohibits the use of the veteran identification card as an identification card for a veteran with a 100 percent, service-connected, permanent and total disability rating for compensation, or who has a service-connected total and permanent disability rating of 100 percent and receives disability retirement pay pursuant to s. 295.17, F.S., or as an identification card pursuant to s. 322.051, F.S. The bill requires a veteran identification card to be terminated upon the death of the veteran.

The bill provides for repeal of the authorizing statute for veteran identification cards on August 31, 2023.

In addition to showing a DD Form 214 or another acceptable form of identification specified by DVA as proof of veteran status, the bill adds the veteran identification card as proof of veteran status for waivers of registration or license fees for the following DACS and DFS businesses and occupations: land surveying and mapping; private investigation, security, and repossession services; health studios; telephone salespersons; movers and moving brokers; the sale of liquefied petroleum gas; pawnbrokers; motor vehicle repair shops; sellers of travel; and insurance representatives. Lastly, the veteran identification card may be used as proof of veteran status for the expedited processing of an application for a license to carry concealed weapons or firearms.

### **B. SECTION DIRECTORY:**

**Section 1** Creates s. 322.0511, F.S., relating to veteran identification cards.

**Section 2** Amends s. 472.015, F.S., relating to DACS licensure for land surveying and mapping.

**Section 3** Amends s. 493.6105, F.S., relating to DACS initial application for licensure for private investigation, security, and repossession services.

STORAGE NAME: 00107.L DATE: 10/3/2017

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Section 790.06(5)(f), F.S.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Section 626.171(6), F.S.

- Amends s. 493.6107, F.S., relating to DACS initial license fees for private investigation, Section 4 security, and repossession services.
- Section 5 Amends s. 493.6202, F.S., relating to DACS fees for private investigation, security, and repossession services.
- Section 6 Amends s. 493.6302, F.S., relating to DACS fees for private investigation, security, and repossession services.
- Section 7 Amends s. 493.6402, F.S., relating to DACS fees for private investigation, security, and repossession services.
- Section 8 Amends s. 501.015, F.S., relating to DACS health studios registration requirements.
- Amends s. 501.605, F.S., relating to DACS licensure of commercial telephone sellers Section 9 and entities providing substance abuse marketing services.
- Section 10 Amends s. 501.607, F.S., relating to DACS licensure of salespersons.
- Section 11 Amends s. 507.03, F.S., relating to DACS registration for movers and moving brokers.
- Section 12 Amends s. 527.02, F.S., relating to DACS and the regulation of the sale of liquefied petroleum gas.
- Section 13 Amends s. 539.001, F.S., relating to DACS pawnbroker licenses.
- Section 14 Amends s. 559.904, F.S., relating to DACS registration for motor vehicle repair shops.
- Amends s. 559.928, F.S., relating to DACS registration for sellers of travel. Section 15
- Section 16 Amends s. 626.171, F.S., relating to DFS insurance representative applications for licensure.
- Amends s. 790.06, F.S., relating to DACS licenses to carry concealed weapons or Section 17 firearms.
- Section 18 Provides an effective date of January 1, 2019.

### II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

### A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

### 1. Revenues:

The DHSMV has not provided a fiscal analysis for the bill. However, a similar bill was filed last year and the DHSMV estimated approximately 65,000 individuals will purchase the new identification card in the first year. At a rate of \$10 per transaction, the bill would have a positive fiscal impact to the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund totaling \$650,000.32

### 2. Expenditures:

The DHSMV has not provided a fiscal analysis for the bill. However, a similar bill was filed last year and the DHSMV provided an initial estimate stating that approximately 4,560 programming hours. or \$313,440 in FTE and contracted resources, will be required to implement the bill. Additionally, the department will need to purchase two additional card printers at \$7,650 per printer, totaling \$15,300. It is expected that this cost can be absorbed within existing resources.33

### **B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:**

Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

**DATE**: 10/3/2017

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup>Email from DHSMV to staff on March 30, 2017 pertaining to fiscal impacts related to HB 179 (2017 session). On file with the Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee.

### C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

Veterans who choose to obtain the veteran identification card could receive license and registration fee waivers, resulting in a positive fiscal impact for those veterans.

### D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None.

### III. COMMENTS

### A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not Applicable. This bill does not appear to require counties or municipalities to spend funds or take action requiring the expenditures of funds; reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

2. Other:

None.

### **B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:**

The bill neither authorizes nor requires administrative rulemaking by executive branch agencies.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

### IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to veteran identification; creating s. 322.0511, F.S.; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to create a veteran identification card for certain purposes; providing for the design of the card; providing veteran eligibility requirements; providing for fee disposition; prohibiting use of the card for certain purposes; providing for termination of the card; providing for future repeal; amending ss. 472.015, 493.6105, 493.6107, 493.6202, 493.6302, 493.6402, 501.015, 501.605, 501.607, 507.03, 527.02, 539.001, 559.904, 559.928, and 626.171, F.S.; authorizing use of the card as proof of veteran status for obtaining waivers of license or registration fees relating to land surveying and mapping, private investigation, security, and repossession services, health studios, telephone salespersons and substance abuse marketing services providers, movers and moving brokers, the sale of liquefied petroleum gas, pawnbrokers, motor vehicle repair shops, sellers of travel, and insurance representatives; amending s. 790.06, F.S.; authorizing use of the card as proof of veteran status for expedited processing of an application for a license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; providing an

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26	effective date.
27	
28	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
29	
30	Section 1. Section 322.0511, Florida Statutes, is created
31	to read:
32	322.0511 Veteran identification cards
33	(1) The department, in cooperation with the Department of
34	Veterans' Affairs, shall create a veteran identification card to
35	be used as proof of veteran status for the purpose of obtaining
36	discounts or waivers offered to veterans for the exchange of
37	goods and services and for other purposes authorized by law,
38	except as provided in subsection (3). The veteran identification
39	card must bear the colors and design approved by the department,
40	including, but not limited to, a full-face photograph of the
41	veteran and his or her full name, branch of service, and date of
42	discharge. The words "Proof of veteran status" must appear at
43	the bottom of the card.
44	(2) The department shall issue a veteran identification
45	card by mail to a veteran of any branch of the United States
46	Armed Forces who has been honorably discharged and who provides
47	to the department:
48	(a) A copy of the veteran's DD Form 214 as issued by the
49	United States Department of Defense.
50	(b) A copy of the veteran's valid, unexpired driver

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CODING: Words  $\underline{\text{stricken}}$  are deletions; words  $\underline{\text{underlined}}$  are additions.

license or identification card as issued under this chapter or another form of photographic identification acceptable to the department.

- (c) Payment of a \$10 fee, which shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.
- (3) A veteran identification card issued pursuant to this section is not considered an identification card for the purposes of s. 295.17 or s. 322.051 and may not be used for the determination of any federal benefit.
- (4) A veteran identification card issued pursuant to this section shall be terminated upon the death of the veteran.
  - (5) This section is repealed August 31, 2023.
- Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 472.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 472.015 Licensure.-
  - (3)

- (b) The department shall waive the initial license fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:
  - 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his

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or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;

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- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- 3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

  322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 493.6105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
493.6105 Initial application for license.—

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(1) Each individual, partner, or principal officer in a corporation, shall file with the department a complete application accompanied by an application fee not to exceed \$60, except that the applicant for a Class "D" or Class "G" license is not required to submit an application fee. The application fee is not refundable.

- (c) The initial application fee for a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, shall be waived if he or she applies for a Class "C," Class "CC," Class "DI," Class "E," Class "EE," Class "K," Class "M," Class "MA," Class "MB," Class "MR," or Class "RI" license within 24 months after being discharged from a branch of the United States Armed Forces. An eligible veteran must include a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs with his or her application in order to obtain a waiver.
- Section 4. Subsection (6) of section 493.6107, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

493.6107 Fees.-

(6) The initial license fee for a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, shall be waived if he or she applies for a Class "M" or Class "K" license within 24 months after being discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. An eligible veteran must include a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued

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by the United States Department of Defense, <u>his or her veteran</u> identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs with his or her application in order to obtain a waiver.

Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 493.6202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

493.6202 Fees.-

(4) The initial license fee for a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, shall be waived if he or she applies for a Class "C," Class "CC," or Class "MA" license within 24 months after being discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. An eligible veteran must include a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs with his or her application in order to obtain a waiver.

Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 493.6302, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

493.6302 Fees.-

(4) The initial license fee for a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, shall be waived if he or she applies for a Class "D," Class "DI," or Class "MB" license within 24 months after being discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. An

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eligible veteran must include a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs with his or her application in order to obtain a waiver.

Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 493.6402, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

493.6402 Fees.-

(4) The initial license fee for a veteran, as defined in s. 1.01, shall be waived if he or she applies for a Class "E," Class "EE," Class "MR," or Class "RI" license within 24 months after being discharged from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. An eligible veteran must include a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs with his or her application in order to obtain a waiver.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 501.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

501.015 Health studios; registration requirements and fees.—Each health studio shall:

(2) Remit an annual registration fee of \$300 to the department at the time of registration for each of the health

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studio's business locations. The department shall waive the initial registration fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:

- (a) A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- (b) The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- (c) A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the

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veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 501.605, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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501.605 Licensure of commercial telephone sellers and entities providing substance abuse marketing services.—

- (5) An application filed pursuant to this part must be verified and accompanied by:
- (b) A fee for licensing in the amount of \$1,500. The fee shall be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund. The department shall waive the initial license fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:
- 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant

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to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;

- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- 3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

  322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 501.607, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

501.607 Licensure of salespersons.—

(2) An application filed pursuant to this section must be verified and be accompanied by:

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salesperson. The fee shall be deposited into the General Inspection Trust Fund. The fee for licensing may be paid after the application is filed, but must be paid within 14 days after the applicant begins work as a salesperson. The department shall waive the initial license fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:

- 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or

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3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 507.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

507.03 Registration.-

(3)

- (b) The department shall waive the initial registration fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:
- 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant

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to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;

- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- 3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

  322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 527.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

527.02 License; penalty; fees.-

324 (3)

(b) The department shall waive the initial license fee for

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an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:

- 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- 3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

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322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 13. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 539.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

539.001 The Florida Pawnbroking Act.-

(3) LICENSE REQUIRED.-

- (c) Each license is valid for a period of 1 year unless it is earlier relinquished, suspended, or revoked. Each license shall be renewed annually, and each licensee shall, initially and annually thereafter, pay to the agency a license fee of \$300 for each license held. The agency shall waive the initial license fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the agency receives an application, in a format prescribed by the agency, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:7
- 1. A veteran must provide to the agency a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as

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specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;

- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the agency a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- 3. A business entity must provide to the agency proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 559.904, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

559.904 Motor vehicle repair shop registration; application; exemption.—

(3)

(b) The department shall waive the initial registration

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fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:

- 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or
- 3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

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322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.

Section 15. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 559.928, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

559.928 Registration.-

434 (2)

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- (c) The department shall waive the initial registration fee for an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Armed Forces, the spouse of such a veteran, or a business entity that has a majority ownership held by such a veteran or spouse if the department receives an application, in a format prescribed by the department, within 60 months after the date of the veteran's discharge from any branch of the United States Armed Forces. To qualify for the waiver:
- 1. A veteran must provide to the department a copy of his or her DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, his or her veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs;
- 2. The spouse of a veteran must provide to the department a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran

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identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that he or she was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge; or

- 3. A business entity must provide to the department proof that a veteran or the spouse of a veteran holds a majority ownership in the business, a copy of the veteran's DD Form 214, as issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran's veteran identification card issued pursuant to s.

  322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs, and, if applicable, a copy of a valid marriage license or certificate verifying that the spouse of the veteran was lawfully married to the veteran at the time of discharge.
- Section 16. Subsection (6) of section 626.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 626.171 Application for license as an agent, customer representative, adjuster, service representative, managing general agent, or reinsurance intermediary.—
- (6) Members of the United States Armed Forces and their spouses, and veterans of the United States Armed Forces who have retired within 24 months before application for licensure, are exempt from the application filing fee prescribed in s. 624.501. Qualified individuals must provide a copy of a military

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identification card, military dependent identification card, military service record, military personnel file, veteran identification card, veteran record, discharge paper, or separation document, or a separation document that indicates such members of the United States Armed Forces are currently in good standing or were honorably discharged.

Section 17. Paragraph (f) of subsection (5) of section 790.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

790.06 License to carry concealed weapon or firearm.-

- (5) The applicant shall submit to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services or an approved tax collector pursuant to s. 790.0625:
  - (f) For expedited processing of an application:
- 1. A servicemember shall submit a copy of the Common Access Card, United States Uniformed Services Identification Card, or current deployment orders.
- 2. A veteran shall submit a copy of the DD Form 214, issued by the United States Department of Defense, the veteran identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.0511, or another acceptable form of identification as specified by the Department of Veterans' Affairs.
  - Section 18. This act shall take effect January 1, 2019.

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# DISSOLVING INACTIVE SPECIAL DISTRICTS

# **INACTIVE SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

- District no longer fully functional or fails to meet statutory duties
- Possible Reasons
  - Functions taken over by county or municipality
  - Purpose for creating district has been fully met
  - District no longer receiving revenue or incurring expenses
  - No board or employees

## **INACTIVE DECLARATION PROCESS**

- Special District Accountability Program
- Step 1: Document at least 1 of 6 factors:
  - Receive written notice that district has taken no action for 2+ years
  - Receive written notice that district had no board/no quorum for 2+ years
  - District officials or county/municipality commission fail to respond to DEO inquiry within 21 days.
  - District fails to file required reports, including financial reports.
  - District had no registered agent for 1+ years
  - Unanimous district resolution declaring district inactive.

# INACTIVE DECLARATION PROCESS (Cont'd)

- Step 2: DEO publishes proposed notice of inactive status within district
- Objections must be filed with DEO within 21 days
- Step 3: No objection w/in 21 days: Notice is Final

### DISTRICT DECLARED INACTIVE

- District created by local gov't: DEO sends notice to governing body
- District created by Legislature: DEO sends notice to
  - Speaker of the Florida House
  - President of the Florida Senate
  - Standing committees of each chamber responsible for special districts
  - Joint Legislative Auditing Committee
- Inactive status may be legally challenged or withdrawn by DEO
- District may not collect taxes, fees, assessments
  - DEO may enforce by filing petition in Leon County Circuit Court
- Assets of district subject to legal process to satisfy district's debts

# **CURRENT INACTIVE DISTRICTS**

- Exhibit A in materials: DEO Listing as of 9/29/2017
- 3 districts officially declared inactive
  - Emerald Coast Bridge Authority: created in Okaloosa County by special act
  - Laguna Estates Community Development District: created by Lee County ordinance
  - <u>Sunny Isles Reclamation and Water Control Board</u>: created by circuit court order under old version of statute.
    - Unsure whether in Broward & Miami-Dade Counties or just Miami-Dade County

# DISSOLUTION OF INACTIVE DISTRICTS

- Inactive district not automatically dissolved
  - · Law/ordinance creating district must be repealed
- Locally created dependent district: dissolved by ordinance
  - Referendum not needed if declared inactive by DEO or otherwise meets one of 6 statutory criteria.
- Active independent district created by local ordinance
  - Follow same process used to create district
  - UNLESS district may impose ad valorem taxes must then use same process as granted ad valorem powers.
- Locally created independent district
  - Declared inactive by DEO or meets at least one of the 6 criteria
  - Dissolved after creating local gov't publishes notice

# DISSOLUTION OF INACTIVE DISTRICTS (Cont'd)

- Only Legislature may dissolve districts created by special act
- Active Independent District
  - Statute: Dissolved by special act approved by local voters
- Declared inactive by DEO
  - Statute: May be dissolved by special act without referendum
  - Notice published by DEO satisfies constitutional publication requirement for local bills.

# CONSEQUENCES OF DISSOLUTION

- Dissolution automatically <u>transfers title to property</u> owned by district to local general purpose gov't.
  - Usually the county
- Local general purpose gov't. becomes <u>liable for all debts</u> of dissolved district.

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICTS (CDDs)

- Not subject to statutes generally governing dissolution
- Dissolved automatically by statute after 5 years unless a landowner obtains a development permit for part of the area.
- Per statute, CDD with no outstanding financial or maintenance/operating responsibilities may be dissolved by the creating entity.
  - Local gov't: non-emergency ordinance
  - Governor & Cabinet: repeal rule creating district

## 2016 TREATMENT OF INACTIVE DISTRICTS

- 11 districts had been declared inactive by DEO
  - 3 locally created
  - 7 created by special act
  - 1 (Sunny Isles Reclamation) by court order
- 7 local bills to dissolve districts created by special act

- Exhibit B in materials HB 419
- All 7 passed both chambers and signed into law

#### **Division of Community Development**

#### **Special District Accountability Program**

#### Official List of Special Districts Online

#### **All Special Districts Declared Inactive**

Section 189.062, Florida Statutes, provides a process by which the Department must declare a special district inactive under certain circumstances. After the department declares a special district inactive, the department must provide notice to the entity that created the special district that the special district has been declared inactive. The creation entity must then dissolve the inactive special district. The inactive special districts listed in this report have been declared inactive by the department and notice has been provided to the creation entity. However, the entity that created the special district has not yet dissolved it.

#### **Total Inactive Special Districts: 3**

#### **Emerald Coast Bridge Authority**

• Date Declared Inactive: March 17, 2017

• Enabling Law(s) to be Repealed: Chapters 90-412, 2001-346, Laws of Florida

• County(ies): Okaloosa

• Status: Dependent

• Date Created / Established: July 6, 1990

Statutory Authority: Section 189.031, Florida Statutes

Local Governing Authority: Okaloosa County

. Govering Body: Appointed

Bond Authority: Yes

#### **Laguna Estates Community Development District**

• Date Declared Inactive: March 31, 2017

Enabling Law(s) to be Repealed: County Ordinance 06-21

County(ies): Lee

• Status: Independent

• Date Created / Established: November 21, 2006

• Statutory Authority: Chapter 190, Florida Statutes

• Local Governing Authority: Lee County

• Govering Body: Elected

• Bond Authority: Yes

#### **Sunny Isles Reclamation and Water Control Board**

• Date Declared Inactive: December 3, 2010

• Enabling Law(s) to be Repealed: Circuit Court Decree of the 11th Judicial Circuit 66C-7402

• County(ies): Multi

• Status: Independent

• Date Created / Established: August 29, 1966

• Statutory Authority: Chapter 298, Florida Statutes

• Local Governing Authority: Broward, Miami-Dade

• Govering Body: Elected

• Bond Authority: Yes

Department of Economic Opportunity
107 East Madison Street
Caldwell Building
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4120

ENROLLED

HB 419

2016 Legislature

1 2 An act relating to the Highlands Road and Bridge 3 District, Pasco County; abolishing the district; repealing chapters 8803 (1921), 9568 (1923), 9570 4 5 (1923), 13248 (1927), 13249 (1927), and 26125 (1949), 6 Laws of Florida; providing an effective date. 7 8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 9 10 Section 1. Chapters 8803 (1921), 9568 (1923), 9570 (1923), 13248 (1927), 13249 (1927), and 26125 (1949), Laws of Florida, 11 12 are repealed. 13 Section 2. The Highlands Road and Bridge District is abolished. All assets and liabilities of the district are 14 transferred to the Board of County Commissioners of Pasco 15 16 County. 17 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.