

Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

Tuesday, March 22, 2011 9:00 AM - 11:30 AM Reed Hall

Meeting Packet



The Florida House of Representatives

Appropriations Committee

Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

Dean Cannon Speaker Mike Horner Chair

March 22, 2011

AGENDA 9:00 AM – 11:30 AM Reed Hall

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call
- II. Consideration of Bills

CS/HB 601 Road and Bridge Designations
HB 639 Affordable Housing
PCB TEDAS 11-03 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

- III. Budget Workshop
- IV. Adjourn

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #:

CS/HB 601

Road and Bridge Designations

SPONSOR(S): Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee, Frishe and others

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS:

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee	15 Y, 0 N, As CS	Johnson	Brown
Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee		Davis (Davis
3) Economic Affairs Committee			·

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Section 334.071, F.S., provides for legislative designations of transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility. The legislative designations do not "officially" change the current names of the facilities, nor does the statute require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings. The bill makes the following designations and directs the Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers for each of these designations:

- Sqt, Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway in Pinellas County.
- Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower Avenue in Orange County.
- SP4 Thomas Berry Corbin Memorial Highway in Dixie County.
- U.S. Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun Chavous, Jr. Memorial Highway in Dixie County.
- Marine Lance Corporal Brian R. Busing Memorial Highway in Levy County.
- United States Army Sergeant Karl A. Campbell Memorial Highway in Levy County.
- U.S. Army SPC James A. Page Memorial Highway in Levy County.
- Veterans Memorial Highway in Putnam County.
- Ben G. Watts Highway in Washington County.
- Mardi Gras Way in Broward County.
- West Park Boulevard in Broward County.
- Starke Memorial Drive in Duval County.
- Pembroke Park Boulevard in Broward County.
- Duval County Law Enforcement Overpass in Duval County.
- Verna Bell Way in Nassau County.
- Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy Ronald Jackson Highway in Union County.

The bill also corrects errors in the Miss Lillie Williams Boulevard and the Father Jean-Juste Street designations that passed in 2010.

The bill has an estimated negative fiscal impact of \$12,800 on the State Transportation Trust Fund, which is the cost to the Department of Transportation to erect the markers. This cost can be absorbed within the existing budget authority of the department.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2011.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives. STORAGE NAME: h0601a.TEDAS.DOCX

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Section 334.071, F.S., provides for legislative designations of transportation facilities for honorary or memorial purposes, or to distinguish a particular facility. The legislative designations do not "officially" change the current names of the facilities, nor does the statute require local governments and private entities to change street signs, mailing addresses, or 911 emergency telephone-number system listings.

The statute requires the Department of Transportation (DOT) to place a marker at each termini or intersection of an identified road or bridge, and to erect other markers it deems appropriate for the transportation facility. The statute also provides that a city or county must pass a resolution in support of a particular designation before road markers are erected. Additionally, if the designated road segment extends through multiple cities or counties, a resolution must be passed by each affected local government.

Effect of Proposed Change

The bill makes the following honorary designations:

- State Road 687 in Pinellas County from I-275 to I-175 as "Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway."
- That portion of Orange Blossom Trail between W. Gore Street and W. Church Street in Orange County as "Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower Avenue."
- That portion of U.S. Highway 19/27A/98/State Road 55 between the Suwannee River Bridge and N.E. 592nd Street/Chavous Road/Kate Green Road in Dixie County as "SP4 Thomas Berry Corbin Memorial Highway."
- That portion of U.S. Highway 19/98/State Road 55 between N.E. 592nd Street/Chavous Road/Kate Green Road and N.E. 170th Street in Dixie County as "U.S. Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun Chavous, Jr. Memorial Highway.
- That portion of State Road 24 between County Road 374 and Bridge Number 340053 in Levy County as "Marine Lance Corporal Brian R. Busing Memorial Highway."
- That portion of U.S. Highway 19/98/State Road 55/S. Main Street between N.W. 1st Avenue and S.E. 2nd Avenues in Levy County as United States Army Sergeant Karl A. Campbell Memorial Highway.'
- That portion of U.S. Highway 27A/State Road 500/Hathaway Avenue between State Road 24/Thrasher Drive and Town Court in Levy County as "U.S. Army SPC James A. Page Memorial Highway."
- That portion of State Road 19 in Putnam County between U.S. Highway 17 (State Road 15) and Carriage Drive in Palatka as "Veterans Memorial Highway."
- That portion of U.S. 90 in Washington County between the Jackson County line and the Holmes County Line at the Holmes Creek Bridge as the "Ben G. Watts Highway."
- That portion of State Road 824 between I-95 and U.S. Highway 1 in Broward County as "Mardi Gras Way."
- That portion of State Road 7 between Pembroke Road and County Line Road in Broward County as "West Park Boulevard."
- That portion of State Road 101/Mayport Road between State Road A1A and Wonderwood Connector in Duval County as "Stark Memorial Drive."
- That portion of State Road 858/Hallandale Beach Boulevard between I-95 and U.S. 441/State Road 7 in Broward County as "Pembroke Park Boulevard."
- The Interstate 295/State Road 9A overpass (Bridge Nos. 720256 and 720347) over Interstate 10/State Road 8 in Duval County as "Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial Overpass."

 That portion of State Road 200 between Lime Street and Beech Street in the City of Fernandina Beach in Nassau County as "Verna Bell Way."

Designates Sqt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S.

 That portion of State Road 100 East between the Bradford County Line and the Columbia County Line in Union County as "Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy Ronald Jackson Highway."

The bill directs DOT to erect suitable markers designating each of the above designations.

The bill also amends the "Miss Lillie Williams Boulevard" and "Father Gerard Jean-Juste Street" designations which were created in 2010 in order to correct errors in the previous designations.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2011.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1

Occilon 1	Crawford Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 2	Designates "Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower Avenue; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 3	Designates the SP4 Thomas Berry Corbin Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 4	Designates the U.S. Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun Chavous, Jr. Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 5	Designates the Marine Lance Corporal Brian R. Busing Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 6	Designates the Army Sergeant Karl A. Campbell Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 7	Designates the U.S. Army SPC James A. Page Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 8	Designates the Veterans Memorial Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 9	Designates the Ben G. Watts Highway; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 10	Designates Mardi Gras Way; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 11	Designates West Park Boulevard; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 12	Designates Starke Memorial Drive; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 13	Designates Pembroke Park Boulevard; directs DOT to erect suitable markers.
Section 14	Designates Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial Overpass, directs DOT to erect suitable markers.

Designates Verna Bell way, directs DOT to erect suitable markers.

Designates Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy Ronald Jackson Highway; directs DOT to

Section 15

Section 16

erect suitable markers.

Section 17 Amends section 24 of ch. 2010-230, L.O.F., amending the "Miss Lillie Williams Boulevard" designation.

Section 18 Amends section 45 of ch. 2010-230, L.O.F., amending the "Father Jean-Juste Street." designation.

Section 19 Provides an effective date.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

DOT will incur costs of approximately \$12,800 (from the State Transportation Trust Fund) for erecting markers for the designations. This is based on the assumption that two markers for each designation will be erected at a cost of \$400 per marker. This cost can be absorbed within the existing budget authority of the department. DOT will also incur the recurring costs of maintaining these signs over time, and for future replacement of the signs as necessary.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None

2. Expenditures:

None

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

None

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because the bill does not appear to require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None

STORAGE NAME: h0601a.TEDAS.DOCX

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

Drafting Issues

None

Comments

Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger and Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz were St. Petersburg police officers killed in the line of duty on January 24, 2011.

Officer David S. Crawford was a St. Petersburg police officer killed in the line of duty on February 21, 2011.

Edna Sampson Hargrett-Thrower was the head the Choral Music department at Jones High School in Orlando. She passed away on April 19, 2010

Army Sp4 Thomas Berry Corbin was killed in combat in South Vietnam in 1968. He received the Army Silver Star.

Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun Chavous Jr. was killed in combat in South Vietnam in 1968.

Marine Lance Cpl. Brian Rory Busing was killed in combat in Iraq in 2003.

Army Sgt. Karl Andrew Campbell was killed in Afghanistan in 2010.

Army SPC. James Anthony Page was killed in Afghanistan in 2010.

Ben G. Watts served as Secretary of DOT from 1989 to 1997. Currently, Mr. Watts is retired from Carter & Burgess, Inc., where he served as President and CEO.

Based in Mayport, FL, the USS Stark was attacked by an Iraqi jet fighter in 1987, killing 37 American sailors.

Deputies Hal P. Croft and Ronald Jackson were Union County sheriff's deputies killed in the line of duty.

Verna Bell was a community activist in Fernandina Beach and Duval County.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

On March 15, 2011, the Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee adopted three amendments to its Proposed Committee Substitute. These amendments:

- Designates the Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial Overpass.
- Designates Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy Ronald Jackson Highway.
- Designate Verna Bill Way.

The bill analysis is drafted to the Committee Substitute.

STORAGE NAME: h0601a.TEDAS.DOCX

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to road and bridge designations; 3 designating Sqt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. 4 Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway 5 in Pinellas County; designating Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower 6 Avenue in Orange County; designating SP4 Thomas Berry 7 Corbin Memorial Highway and U.S. Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun 8 Chavous, Jr. Memorial Highway in Dixie County; designating 9 Marine Lance Corporal Brian R. Buesing Memorial Highway, 10 United States Army Sergeant Karl A. Campbell Memorial Highway, and U.S. Army SPC James A. Page Memorial Highway 11 12 in Levy County; designating Veterans Memorial Highway in 13 Putnam County; designating Ben G. Watts Highway in 14 Washington County; designating Mardi Gras Way, West Park 15 Boulevard, and Pembroke Park Boulevard in Broward County; 16 designating Stark Memorial Drive and Duval County Law 17 Enforcement Memorial Overpass in Duval County; designating 18 Verna Bell Way in Nassau County; designating Deputy Hal P. 19 Croft and Deputy Ronald Jackson Highway in Union County; 20 amending ss. 24 and 45, ch. 2010-230, Laws of Florida; 21 revising the designation for Miss Lillie Williams 22 Boulevard and Father Gerard Jean-Juste Street in Miami-23 Dade County; directing the Department of Transportation to 24 erect suitable markers; providing an effective date. 25 26 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 27

Page 1 of 8

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

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Section 1. Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A.
Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway
designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable
markers.—

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- (1) That portion of State Road 687 between Interstate 275 and Interstate 175 in Pinellas County is designated as "Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway."
- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).
- Section 2. Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower Avenue designated;

 Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—
- (1) That portion of Orange Blossom Trail between W. Gore Street and W. Church Street in Orange County is designated as "Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower Avenue."
- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Edna S. Hargrett-Thrower Avenue as described in subsection (1).
- Section 3. <u>SP4 Thomas Berry Corbin Memorial Highway</u> designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—
- (1) That portion of U.S. Highway 19/27A/98/State Road 55 between the Suwannee River Bridge and N.E. 592nd Street/Chavous Road/Kate Green Road in Dixie County is designated as "SP4 Thomas Berry Corbin Memorial Highway."

Page 2 of 8

56	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
57	suitable markers designating SP4 Thomas Berry Corbin Memorial
58	Highway as described in subsection (1).
59	Section 4. U.S. Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun Chavous, Jr.
60	Memorial Highway designated; Department of Transportation to
61	erect suitable markers.—
62	(1) That portion of U.S. Highway 19/98/State Road 55
63	between N.E. 592nd Street/Chavous Road/Kate Green Road and N.E.
64	170th Street in Dixie County is designated as "U.S. Navy BMC
65	Samuel Calhoun Chavous, Jr. Memorial Highway."
66	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
67	suitable markers designating U.S. Navy BMC Samuel Calhoun
68	Chavous, Jr. Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).
69	Section 5. Marine Lance Corporal Brian R. Buesing Memorial
70	Highway designated; Department of Transportation to erect
71	suitable markers.—
72	(1) That portion of State Road 24 between County Road 347
73	and Bridge Number 340053 in Levy County is designated as "Marine
74	Lance Corporal Brian R. Buesing Memorial Highway."
75	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
76	suitable markers designating Marine Lance Corporal Brian R.
77	Buesing Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).
78	Section 6. United States Army Sergeant Karl A. Campbell
79	Memorial Highway designated; Department of Transportation to
80	erect suitable markers.—

Page 3 of 8

Main Street between N.W. 1st Avenue and S.E. 2nd Avenue in Levy

County is designated as "United States Army Sergeant Karl A.

(1) That portion of U.S. Highway 19/98/State Road 55/S.

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84	Campbell	Memorial	Highway.	. 11
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- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating United States Army Sergeant Karl A. Campbell Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).
- Section 7. <u>U.S. Army SPC James A. Page Memorial Highway</u> designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—
- (1) That portion of U.S. Highway 27A/State Road

 500/Hathaway Avenue between State Road 24/Thrasher Drive and

 Town Court in Levy County is designated as "U.S. Army SPC James

 A. Page Memorial Highway."
- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating U.S. Army SPC James A. Page
 Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).
- Section 8. <u>Veterans Memorial Highway designated;</u>
 Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—
- (1) That portion of State Road 19 between U.S. Highway 17/State Road 15 and Carriage Drive in the City of Palatka in Putnam County is designated as "Veterans Memorial Highway."
- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Veterans Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).
- Section 9. Ben G. Watts Highway designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers.—
- (1) That portion of U.S. Highway 90 in Washington County

 between the Jackson County line and the Holmes County line at

 the Holmes Creek Bridge is designated as "Ben G. Watts Highway."

111	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
112	suitable markers designating Ben G. Watts Highway as described
113	in subsection (1).
114	Section 10. Mardi Gras Way designated; Department of
115	Transportation to erect suitable markers
116	(1) That portion of State Road 824 between Interstate 95
117	and U.S. Highway 1 in Broward County is designated as "Mardi
118	Gras Way."
119	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
120	suitable markers designating Mardi Gras Way as described in
121	subsection (1).
122	Section 11. West Park Boulevard designated; Department of
123	Transportation to erect suitable markers
124	(1) That portion of State Road 7 between Pembroke Road and
125	County Line Road in Broward County is designated as "West Park
126	Boulevard."
127	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
128	suitable markers designating West Park Boulevard as described in
129	subsection (1).
130	Section 12. Pembroke Park Boulevard designated; Department
131	of Transportation to erect suitable markers
132	(1) That portion of State Road 858/Hallandale Beach
133	Boulevard between Interstate 95 and U.S. Highway 441/State Road
134	7 in Broward County is designated as "Pembroke Park Boulevard."
135	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
136	suitable markers designating Pembroke Park Boulevard as
137	described in subsection (1).

138	Section 13. Stark Memorial Drive designated; Department of
139	Transportation to erect suitable markers
140	(1) That portion of State Road 101/Mayport Road between
141	State Road A1A and Wonderwood Connector in Duval County is
142	designated as "Stark Memorial Drive."
143	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
144	suitable markers designating Stark Memorial Drive as described
145	in subsection (1).
146	Section 14. Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial Overpass
147	designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable
148	markers.—
149	(1) The Interstate 295/State Road 9A overpass (Bridge Nos.
150	720256 and 720347) over Interstate 10/State Road 8 in Duval
151	County is designated as "Duval County Law Enforcement Memorial
152	Overpass."
153	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
154	suitable markers designating Duval County Law Enforcement
155	Memorial Overpass as described in subsection (1).
156	Section 15. Verna Bell Way designated; Department of
157	Transportation to erect suitable markers
158	(1) That portion of State Road 200 between Lime Street and
159	Beech Street in the City of Fernandina Beach in Nassau County is
160	designated as "Verna Bell Way."
161	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
162	suitable markers designating Verna Bell Way as described in
163	subsection (1).

164	Section 16. Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy Ronald Jackson
165	Highway designated; Department of Transportation to erect
166	suitable markers.—
167	(1) That portion of State Road 100 East between the
168	Bradford County line and the Columbia County line in Union
169	County is designated as "Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy Ronald
170	Jackson Highway."
171	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
172	suitable markers designating Deputy Hal P. Croft and Deputy
173	Ronald Jackson Highway as described in subsection (1).
174	Section 17. Section 24 of chapter 2010-230, Laws of
175	Florida, is amended to read:
176	Section 24. Miss Lillie Williams Boulevard designated;
177	Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers
178	(1) That portion of N.W. 79th Street between N.W. 6th
179	Avenue and $N.W.$ 7th $E.$ 12th Avenue in Miami-Dade County is
180	designated as "Miss Lillie Williams Boulevard."
181	(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect
182	suitable markers designating Miss Lillie Williams Boulevard as
183	described in subsection (1).
184	Section 18. Section 45 of chapter 2010-230, Laws of
185	Florida, is amended to read:
186	Section 45. Father Gerard Jean-Juste Street designated;
187	Department of Transportation to erect suitable markers
188	(1) That portion of N.W. 54th Street in Miami-Dade County

between N.W. 2nd Avenue and N.E. N.W. 3rd Avenue in Little Haiti

is designated "Father Gerard Jean-Juste Street."

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(2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating Father Gerard Jean-Juste Street as described in subsection (1).

Section 19. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

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Page 8 of 8

Amendment No. 1

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMI	TTEE ACTION
ADOPTED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED AS AMENDED	(Y/N)
ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION	(Y/N)
FAILED TO ADOPT	(Y/N)
WITHDRAWN	(Y/N)
OTHER	•

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee Representative Frishe offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A.

Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway

designated; Department of Transportation to erect suitable

markers.—

- (1) State Road 687 in Pinellas County from I-275 to I-175 is designated as "Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway."
- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating the Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger,

 Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford

 Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).

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S	ection	2.	Officer	Jeffrey A	. Ko	cab a	and	Officer	Day	<u>rid</u>	L.
Curtis	Memor	ial	Highway;	Departmen	t of	Tran	nspo	rtation	to	ere	:ct
suitab	le mar	ker	S.								

- (1) State Road 583/North 50th Street in Hillsborough

 County from Melbourne Blvd/East 21st Avenue to State Road

 574/Martin Luther King Jr., Blvd is designated as "Officer

 Jeffrey A. Kocab and Officer David L. Curtis Memorial Highway."
- (2) The Department of Transportation is directed to erect suitable markers designating the Officer Jeffrey A. Kocab and Officer David L. Curtis Memorial Highway as described in subsection (1).

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

TITLE AMENDMENT

Remove the entire title and insert:

An act relating to road and bridge designations; designating the Sgt. Thomas J. Baitinger, Officer Jeffrey A. Yaslowitz, and Officer David S. Crawford Memorial Highway in Pinellas County; designating the Officer Jeffrey A. Kocab and Officer David L. Curtis Memorial Highway in Hillsborough County; providing an effective date.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #:

HB 639 Affordable Housing

SPONSOR(S): Aubuchon and others

TIED BILLS:

IDEN./SIM. BILLS: SB 912

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee	15 Y, 0 N	Duncan	Hoagland
Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee		Fennel	Davis GW
3) Economic Affairs Committee			

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) is the state entity primarily responsible for encouraging the investment of private capital in residential housing and stimulating the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing in Florida. This bill revises statutes which govern the implementation of affordable housing programs, practices and procedures administered by the FHFC. The bill:

- Removes the statutory limitations on the amount of documentary stamp revenue that goes into the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund.
- Repeals section 8 of chapter 2009-131, L.O.F., retroactively. This eliminates a conflicting version of s. 201.15, F.S., relating to the service charge on taxes collected, which passed concurrently with a different version during the 2009 legislative session, consistent with statutory revision's placement in the statute.
- Revises the state housing strategy to provide targeted assistance for persons with special needs and requires the periodic reviews and reports to include an analysis of persons with special needs.
- Creates two additional definitions to enact the newly established state housing strategies. Those new definitions are aimed to serve populations defined as suffering from a "disabling condition" and those defined as a "person with special needs."
- Removes domicile of the developer and general contractor as criteria to be considered by the FHFC in its scoring and competitive evaluation of applications for funding under the SAIL program and replaces it with developers and general contractors who demonstrate the highest rate of Florida job creation in the development and construction of affordable housing.
- Requires local government comprehensive plans to include affordable housing for seniors as a part of the plan's housing element.
- Authorizes the FHFC to receive federal funding for which no corresponding program has been previously created by statute and to establish selection criteria for such funds by request for proposals or other competitive solicitation.
- Provides that funds from the State Housing Trust Fund or the Local Government Housing Trust Fund that are appropriated for use in the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program, Florida Homeownership Assistance Program, Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program, or the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program may not be used to finance or otherwise assist new construction until July 1, 2012.

The Revenue Estimating Conference consensus estimate found there would be no impact to cash in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. However, based on a four-year outlook there would be an annualized negative impact to recurring general revenue of \$25 million and an annualized positive recurring impact to the state housing trust funds in the same amount.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program and the Distribution of Documentary Stamp Taxes

Overview

The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC)¹ is the state entity primarily responsible for encouraging the investment of private capital in residential housing and stimulating the construction and rehabilitation of affordable housing in Florida.² Originally, federal funds were the only resources that funded housing programs administered by the FHFC. To leverage these federal funds, in the late 1980s the Legislature appropriated funding for state programs.³ With the enactment of the William E. Sadowski Act⁴ which created the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program,⁵ the FHFC's programs are funded in part with revenues generated by the documentary stamp tax, which are often combined with federal funding. The FHFC administers a number of multifamily and single family housing programs that help local governments assist Floridians in obtaining safe, decent affordable housing.

The SHIP Program was created for the purpose of providing funds to local governments as an incentive for the creation of partnerships to produce and preserve affordable housing, further the housing element of the local comprehensive plan specific to affordable housing, and increase housing-related employment. Portions of the documentary stamp tax are transferred into the Local Government Housing Trust Fund and distributed to counties and eligible municipalities participating in the SHIP Program. Counties and eligible municipalities must meet a number of requirements in order to receive funding.

Current Law

The documentary stamp tax is imposed on documents that transfer interest in Florida real property¹⁰ and current law provides for the distribution of documentary stamp taxes.¹¹ Documents subject to the tax include deeds; bonds; notes and written obligations to pay money; and mortgages, liens, and other evidences of indebtedness.¹² The taxes are primarily used to fund varied land and water conservation, preservation, and maintenance, as well as transportation programs.¹³

¹ The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) was created as a public corporation within the Department of Community Affairs (DCA). However, the FHFC is a separate budget entity and is not subject to the control, supervision, or direction of DCA. Section 420.504, F.S.

² Section 420.502(7), F.S.

³ Florida Housing Finance Corporation, *Sadowski Act Overview, available at* http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-lmageWebDocs/AboutUS/SadowskiAct_Outline.pdf.

⁴ Sections 1-35, ch. 92-317, L.O.F.

⁵ Section 32, ch. 92-317, L.O.F.

⁶ Section 420.9072, F.S.

⁷ "Eligible municipality" means a municipality that is eligible for federal Community Development Block Grant entitlement moneys as an entitlement community identified in 24 C.F.R. s. 570, subpart D, Entitlement Grants, or a nonentitlement municipality that is receiving local housing distribution funds under an interlocal agreement that provides for possession and administrative control of funds to be transferred to the nonentitlement municipality. An eligible municipality that defers its participation in the community development block grants does not affect its eligibility for participation in the State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program. Section 420.9071(9), F.S.

⁸ Sections 420.9071(17), F.S. and 420.9073, F.S.

⁹ Section 420.9072(2)(a), F.S.

¹⁰ Chapter 201, F.S.

¹¹ Section 201.15, F.S.

¹² Florida Department of Revenue, *Documentary Stamp Tax*, Nov. 2009, *available at* http://dor.myflorida.com/dor/forms/2009/gt800014.pdf.

¹³ Section 201.15, F.S.

After the distribution specified by law,¹⁴ the lesser of 7.53 percent of remaining documentary stamp taxes or \$107 million in each fiscal year must be paid into the State Treasury, of which half of this amount must be to the credit of the State Housing Trust Fund and the remaining half must be to the credit of the Local Government Housing Trust Fund.¹⁵

After the distribution specified by law, ¹⁶ the lesser of 8.66 percent of remaining documentary stamp taxes or \$136 million in each fiscal year must be paid into the State Treasury, of which 87.5 percent must be paid to the credit of the Local Government Housing Trust Fund and the remaining 12.5 percent must be paid to the credit of the State Housing Trust Fund. ¹⁷ In total, the distributions to the State and Local Government Housing Trust Funds are limited to a percentage of the collected documentary stamp taxes or \$243 million, whichever is less.

Effect of the Proposed Changes

The bill removes the statutory limitations on the amount of documentary stamp revenue that goes into the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund. The bill accomplishes this by:

- Deleting the language providing that the money to be distributed to the State Treasury to the credit
 of the State Housing Trust Fund for certain purposes will be the lesser of 7.53 percent or \$107
 million¹⁸ and replacing it with "seven and fifty-three hundredths" percent.
- Deleting the language providing that the money to be distributed to the State Treasury to the credit
 of the State Housing Trust Fund for certain purposes will be the lesser of 8.66 percent or \$136
 million¹⁹ and replacing it with "eight and sixty-six hundredths" percent.

The caps on the above trust fund distributions are eliminated, so that 7.53 percent of net documentary stamp tax collections are split 50 percent to the State Housing Trust Fund and 50 percent to the Local Government Housing Trust Fund, and 8.66% of the net collections are split 12.5 percent to the State Housing Trust Fund and 87.5 percent to the Local Government Housing Trust Fund.

The FHFC asserts that removal of the statutory limitations on the amount of documentary stamp revenue that goes into the trust funds would increase the amount of funds that could be allocated to FHFC for its various affordable housing programs.

The Revenue Estimating Conference consensus estimate found there would be no impact to cash in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. However, based on a four-year outlook there would be an annualized negative impact to recurring general revenue of \$25 million and an annualized positive recurring impact to the state housing trust funds in the same amount.

Repeal of s. 8, ch. 2009-131, Laws of Florida; Taxes Collected Subject to Service Charge

Current Situation

All taxes collected under this chapter are subject to a service charge²⁰ imposed by law.²¹ In addition, prior to distribution under this section, the Department of Revenue deducts the amounts necessary to pay the costs of the collection and enforcement of the tax levied.²² Section 8 of chapter 2009-131, L.O.F., amended s. 201.15, F.S., by adding language that provided for all costs of collection and enforcement of the tax and the service charge to be available and transferred to the extent necessary to pay debt service and any other amounts payable with respect to bonds authorized before July 1, 2009.

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¹⁴ Section 201.15(1)-(8), F.S.

¹⁵ Section 201.15(9), F.S.

¹⁶ Section 201.15(1)-(9), F.S.

¹⁷ Section 201.15(10), F.S.

¹⁸ Section 201.15(9), F.S.

¹⁹ Section 201.15(10), F.S.

²⁰ Section 201.20(1), F.S.

²¹ Section 201.15, F.S.

²² Id.

This chapter of law also created subsection 201.15(16), F.S., which provides that, if amounts necessary to pay debt service or any other amounts payable with respect to Preservation 2000 bonds, Florida Forever bonds, or Everglades Restoration bonds authorized before July 1, 2009, exceed the amounts distributable pursuant to subsection 201.15(1), F.S., all moneys, distributable pursuant to this section, are available for such obligations and transferred in the amounts necessary to pay such obligations when due. Those amounts distributable pursuant to subsection 201.15(2), (3), (4), and (5), and paragraphs (9)(a) and (10)(a), F.S., are not available to pay such obligations to the extent that such moneys are necessary to pay debt service on bonds secured by revenues pursuant to those provisions.

Effect of the Proposed Changes

The bill repeals section 8 of chapter 2009-131, L.O.F., retroactively to June 30, 2009, which predates its effective date of July 1, 2009. The purpose of this retroactive repeal is to eliminate a conflicting version of s. 201.15, F.S., that was included in SB 2430 (Relating to Taxation of Documents) from 2009. This version provides certain distribution guidelines for tax collections after subtracting costs and the service charge, and refers to bonds authorized before July 1, 2009. SB 2430 was signed into law by the Governor on June 10, 2009, and became ch. 2009-131, L.O.F.

The version that statutory revision included in the body of s. 201.15, F.S., provides different distribution guidelines for tax collections after subtracting costs and the service charge. This version of s. 201.15, F.S., was included in SB 1750 (Relating to Disposition of Tax Revenues) from 2009, and refers to bonds authorized before January 1, 2010. SB 1750 was signed into law by the Governor on May 27, 2009, and became ch. 2009-68, L.O.F.

Powers of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC)

Current Law

Florida law grants the FHFC with specific powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes for providing affordable housing. 23 Among the powers granted by the Legislature is the power to receive federal funding in connection with programs administered by the FHFC directly from the Federal Government.24

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill authorizes the FHFC to administer programs receiving federal funding for which no corresponding program has been previously created by statute and establish selection criteria for such funds by request for proposals or other competitive solicitation. This expands the ability of the FHFC to expend federal housing relief funds in an expedient and efficient manner.

The State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program annually provides low interest loans on a competitive basis to affordable housing developers. The bill removes domicile of the developer and general contractor as criteria to be considered by the FHFC in its scoring and competitive evaluation of applications for funding under the SAIL Program to prevent conflict with federal rules. The bill replaces the domicile preference with developers and general contractors who demonstrate the highest rate of Florida job creation in the development and construction of affordable housing.

State Housing Strategy

Current Law

The state's housing strategy is intended to carry the state towards the goal of assuring that by the year 2010 each Floridian would have decent and affordable housing. The strategy must involve state, regional, and local governments working in partnership with communities and the private sector and must involve financial as well as regulatory commitment to accomplish the goal.²⁵ The strategy includes specific policies relating to housing need; public-private partnerships; preservation of housing stock; public housing; and housing production or rehabilitation programs.²⁶

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²³ Sections 159.608 and 420.507, F.S.

²⁴ Section 420.507(33), F.S.

²⁵ Section 420.0003, F.S.

²⁶ Section 420.003(3), F.S.

The Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing at the University of Florida, in consultation with DCA and the FHFC, is directed to review and evaluate existing housing rehabilitation, production, and finance programs to determine their consistency with relevant policies of the state's housing strategy and identify the needs of specific populations, including, but not limited to, elderly and handicapped persons, and must recommend statutory modifications where appropriate.²⁷

Currently, the set-aside or prioritization requirements for affordable housing are for commercial fishing workers, farm-workers, elderly, and homeless. Current law does not specifically address affordable housing for persons with disabilities, youth aging out of foster care, disabled veterans and survivors of domestic violence who are groups at great risk of becoming homeless.

Effect of the Proposed Changes

The bill revises the state housing strategy to provide targeted assistance for persons with special needs, includes an analysis of persons with special needs in the strategy's periodic review and report. and provides for the distribution of housing funds for multifamily rental housing to be administered to address the housing needs of persons most in need of housing. Specifically, the bill:

- Includes persons with special needs as a tenant group for specified purposes of the State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) Program.
- Extends low interest mortgage loans for the SAIL Program to sponsors of projects who set aside units for persons with special needs.
- Establishes a maximum threshold of ten percent of the SAIL funds available at that time to be used for persons with special needs.

The bill creates two new definitions to enact the newly established state housing strategies:

- "Disabling Condition" means a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, serious mental illness, development disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, or the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions, and a determination that the condition is:
 - Expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration; and
 - Not expected to impair the ability of the person with special needs to live independently with appropriate supports.
- "Person with special needs" means an adult person requiring independent living services in order to maintain housing or to develop independent living skills. This individual must also have a disabling condition; be a young adult existing foster care; a survivor of domestic violence; or a person receiving benefits under Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) program, Supplemental Social Security (SSI) program, or veterans' disability benefit.

The bill also amends the provisions of law related to the housing element of the local government comprehensive planning process and provides that local comprehensive plans may include affordable housing for persons 60 years of age and older as a part of their housing element.

New Construction and the Preservation of Existing Affordable Multifamily Rental Housing

Job Creation

The FHFC generally provides debt and equity financing to developers who leverage federal and state resources with private and other public sector funding to develop new rental apartments or rehabilitate existing affordable units. Both rehabilitation and new construction provide sources of direct and indirect economic benefit and jobs.

Currently, there are a variety of economic conditions that impact the ability of construction jobs to be a useful economic generator in Florida.²⁸ With the proliferation of unsold single family homes that are now available for rent, housing rents have been pushed down in many markets, leading to an oversupply of affordable rental housing and high vacancy rates in those rental markets with slow or no population

DATE: 3/18/2011

STORAGE NAME: h0639b.TEDAS.DOCX

PAGE: 5

²⁷ Section 420.003(4), F.S.

²⁸ Florida Housing Finance Corporation, Financing Affordable Rental Development, March 2011, p. 1, available at http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-ImageWebDocs/UniversalApps/2011/ImportantAnnouncements.

growth (or new household formations). However, in some markets, vacancy rates are low and there is a continued demand for new rental housing.²⁹

The FHFC has determined that each new construction development, on average, creates more jobs than each preservation development: 347 jobs per new construction property, versus 215 jobs per preservation property. However, when equal allocations to new construction and preservation are made, as proposed in the FHFC's proposed 2011 rules,³⁰ more total jobs are created overall by the preservation activities. This is because preservation developments require fewer Low Income Housing Tax Credits to complete and the cost of preservation development is generally lower than new construction. Thus, the state's Low Income Housing Tax Credit allocation goes further for these developments and more developments can be financed with an equal amount of Low Income Housing Tax Credits – an estimated 22 preservation developments versus 12 new construction developments, therefore creating more jobs overall: preservation – 4,737 jobs; new construction – 4,164 jobs.³¹

In 2010, the FHFC carried out closings on 94 affordable multifamily rental developments (9,735 units) – 72 new construction developments with 7,264 units and 22 preservation developments with 2,471 units. These 94 rental developments generated a total development cost of \$1.69 billion. This translates into approximately \$3.86 billion in total economic activity and over 30,906 jobs.³²

The Need for Preservation and New Construction

According to the FHFC, there is a need for affordable new construction as well as preservation of existing affordable multifamily rental housing. While there is a need for new construction in some of Florida's markets, in many counties or areas of counties in Florida (over half), existing affordable rental communities in the FHFC's portfolio are experiencing low occupancy rates (in many cases, properties with only 85-89 percent of units occupied, with some even lower) because of "saturation." Because so much single family housing stock is currently on the market for sale, many owners have chosen to rent out their homes rather than try to find buyers in this market. These additional rental units are competing with market rate and affordable apartments, leading apartment owners to respond with lower rents and special offers. With an excess of rental housing available in many places, vacancies in the FHFC's portfolio are higher than usual.³³

The FHFC states that its objective is to carefully target any new rental construction to those areas of the state where there is a need for such housing. The goal is to help avoid cannibalizing existing state financed rental developments and in particular those developments in the Florida Affordable Housing Guarantee Program³⁴ portfolio.³⁵ Negative pressure on the affordable rental transactions financed by

²⁹ Id.

The Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC) has proposed rules (Rule 67-48, F.A.C. and Rule 67-21, F.A.C.) to establish the procedures by which the FHFC must administer the application process, determine loan amounts, make and service mortgage loans for new construction or rehabilitation of affordable rental units under the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program (s. 420.5087, F.S.); the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (s. 420.5089, F.S.); and administer the application process, determine Housing Credit amounts and implement the provisions of the Housing Credit Program (Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code and s. 420.5099, F.S., and the Multifamily Mortgage Revenue Bond Program (Section 142 of the Internal Revenue Code and s. 420.509, F.S.). Florida Housing Finance Corporation, 2011 Universal Application, http://apps.floridahousing.org/StandAlone/FHFC ECM/ContentPage.aspx?PAGE=0238.

The FHFC evaluated the economic and job impacts of its proposed Low Income Housing Tax Credit cycle with the University of Florida's Shimberg Center for Housing Studies. IMPLAN Version 3, an econometric model along with 2009 Florida state data, was used to estimate impacts from financing both new construction and preservation developments. Florida Housing Finance Corporation, *Financing Affordable Rental Development*, March 2011, p. 1, *available at* http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-lmageWebDocs/UniversalApps/2011/ImportantAnnouncements.

³² Florida Housing Finance Corporation, 2010 Annual Report, Letter from the Chairman and Executive Director, March 2011, p.4, available at http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-lmageWebDocs/Newsroom/Publications/AnnualReports/FHFC 2010AR.pdf.

³³ Florida Housing Finance Corporation, *Financing Affordable Rental Development*, March 2011, p. 6, *available at* http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-ImageWebDocs/UniversalApps/2011/ImportantAnnouncements.

The Florida Affordable Housing Guarantee Program issued guarantees on mortgages of bond-financed affordable rental housing between 1993 and 2005. This action was intended to create a security mechanism that allowed issuers of mortgage revenue bonds to sell affordable housing bonds in the primary and secondary markets. Most of the transactions in this portfolio are 50 percent guaranteed by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Risk Sharing Program. However, due to the current market conditions, the FHFC has suspended the issuance of additional guarantees. Florida Housing Finance Corporation, 2010 Annual

the guarantee fund may lead to the replenishment of its reserves by drawing on the State Housing Trust Fund³⁶ to provide additional support to the guarantee fund. These resources have been utilized in recent years by the Legislature and Governor to help balance Florida's budget.³⁷

With respect to preservation, there are over 400 rental properties throughout Florida that were originally financed with funding from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Development programs and are now over twenty years old. Over 300 of these properties have substantial amounts of federal rental assistance as part of their overall financing package.³⁸ The proposed preservation resources are intended to assist the state with two objectives.³⁹

- To recapitalize and rehabilitate older properties which are falling into disrepair because of age.
- To enable the preservation of the federal rental assistance that enables these rental properties to serve Floridians with very low incomes. The federal rental assistance provides support directly to these properties in exchange for serving elders, persons with disabilities and others with extremely low incomes who cannot afford to pay rents at levels that will support daily operational expenses at a property. Preservation allows the federal rental assistance to remain on the property. Without this federal rental assistance, which is rarely provided to new construction developments, it would be difficult to house these same families in newly constructed rental developments financed through today's typical Low Income Housing Tax Credit financing structures.

Temporary Limitation of New Construction

Effect of the Proposed Changes

The bill places a temporary limitation on new construction and creates the following legislative finding:

"Due to the current economic conditions in the housing market there is a critical need to rehabilitate or sell excess inventory of unsold homes, including foreclosed homes and newly constructed homes, as well as a critical need for the rehabilitation and preservation of older, affordable apartments. The Legislature further finds that there is a critical need to create housing-related jobs and that these conditions require the targeting of state and local housing trust fund moneys to assist in the sale or rehabilitation of existing homes and the preservation and rehabilitation of older rental apartments."

The bill provides that notwithstanding current law, 40 funds from the State Housing Trust Fund or the Local Government Housing Trust Fund that are appropriated for use in the SAIL Program. Florida Homeownership Assistance Program (FHAP), Community Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot (CWHIP) Program, or the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP) Program may not be used to:

Report, March 2011, p.6, available at http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-

ImageWebDocs/Newsroom/Publications/AnnualReports/FHFC 2010AR.pdf. See also s. 420.5092, F.S.

http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20090818006320/en/Fitch-Downgrades-Florida-Housing-Finance-Corps-Guarantee. ³⁶ Section 420.5092(5) and (6), F.S.

 $^{^{35}}$ In 2009, Fitch Ratings downgraded the state's affordable housing guarantee fund from "A+" to "A-" with a negative outlook. The downgrade was based on a spike in the risk-to-capital ratio, five claim payments on properties within the portfolio in nine months, and operating losses in fiscal [year] 2008. The rating considered a risk-to-capital level within the board-directed 5:1 risk-to-capital ratio. The absence of construction risk within the portfolio as well as the ongoing state support through the fund's ability to replenish the fund by drawing on a portion of future documentary stamp tax collections made to the State Housing Trust Fund. Negative rating pressure may occur if the effective risk-to-capital ratio rises above the board-directed maximum 5:1 ratio; the impact of additional claims are large; the documentary stamp tax allocations to the State Housing Trust Fund are diminished and/or the fund's operating performance remains weak. Business Wire, A Berkshire Hathaway Company, Fitch Downgrades Florida Housing Finance Corp's Guarantee Fund's IFS to "A-"; Outlook Negative, Aug. 18, 2009, available at

³⁷ Florida Housing Finance Corporation, *Financing Affordable Rental Development*, March 2011, p. 6, *available at* http://www.floridahousing.org/FH-ImageWebDocs/UniversalApps/2011/ImportantAnnouncements. ³⁸ Id.

⁴⁰ ss. 420.507(22)(a) and (23)(a), 420.5087(6)(l), 420.5088, 420.5095, and 420.9075(1)(b) and (5)(b), F.S.

- Finance or otherwise assist the construction or purchase of housing sold to eligible individuals, unless the housing unit being sold had an initial certificate of occupancy prior to December 31, 2010; or
- Finance or otherwise assist in the construction or purchase of rental housing, unless the development being financed or assisted received its initial certificate of occupancy prior to December 31, 1996.

The bill expressly states that nothing in this section restricts the use of such funds to assist with the purchase of newly constructed homes that were completed prior to December 31, 2010, or the acquisition and rehabilitation of apartments that received their initial certificate of occupancy prior to December 31, 1996. It also provides that the use of such funds is subject to the restrictions of the program under which the funding is made available.

This section and the limitations imparted by it expire July 1, 2012.

FHFC Board of Directors

Current Law

The FHFC is governed by a nine-member board of directors appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate confirmation as follows:41

- A residential home builder.
- A commercial builder.
- A banker or mortgage banker.
- A building labor representative.
- An advocate for low-income persons.
- A former local government elected official.
- Two Florida citizens who are not principally employed in one of the above-listed industries.
- The Secretary of the Florida Department of Community Affairs (ex officio and voting).

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill permits the Secretary of the Florida Department of Community Affairs to designate a seniorlevel agency employee to serve as the DCA's ex officio board member.

Agency Inspectors General

Current Law

Florida law provides for the establishment of an Office of the Inspector General (OIG) in each state agency to promote accountability, integrity, and efficiency in government.⁴² Each Inspector General (IG) is appointed, supervised, and removed by their respective agency head.⁴³ The maior responsibilities of the OIG include investigations, audits, and reviews of state agency programs and activities. 44 Currently, the IG for DCA is directed to perform for the FHFC the functions of the IG and reports to the secretary of DCA.45

The minimum qualifications for an agency IG are as follows:⁴⁶

A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with a major in accounting, or with a major in business which includes five courses in accounting, and 5 years of experience as an internal auditor or independent postauditor, electronic data processing auditor, accountant, or any combination thereof: or

⁴¹ Section 420.504(3), F.S.

⁴² Section 20.055(2), F.S.

⁴³ Section 20.055(3), F.S.

⁴⁴ Section 20.055(2), F.S.

⁴⁵ Section 420.0006, F.S.

⁴⁶ Section 20.055(5), F.S.

- A master's degree in accounting, business administration, or public administration from an accredited college or university and 4 years of experience as required above; or
- A certified public accountant license⁴⁷ or a certified internal audit certificate issued by the Institute of Internal Auditors or earned by examination, and 4 years of experience as required above.

Investigations by the IG are designed to detect, deter, prevent, and eradicate fraud, waste, mismanagement, misconduct, and other abuses in state government.⁴⁸ Accordingly, the following duties are performed by OIG:⁴⁹

- Receive complaints and coordinate all activities of the agency as required by the Whistle-blower's Act.⁵⁰
- Receive and consider the complaints which do not meet the criteria for an investigation under the Whistle-blower's Act and conduct, supervise, or coordinate such inquiries, investigations, or reviews as the IG deems appropriate.
- Report expeditiously to the Department of Law Enforcement or other law enforcement agencies, as appropriate, whenever the IG has reasonable grounds to believe there has been a violation of criminal law.
- Conduct investigations and other inquiries free of actual or perceived impairment to the independence of the IG or the IG's office. This shall include freedom from any interference with investigations and timely access to records and other sources of information.
- Submit in a timely fashion final reports on investigations conducted by the IG to the agency head, except for whistle-blower's investigations, which shall be conducted and reported pursuant to s. 112.3189, F.S.

Audits are independent appraisals designed to examine and evaluate agency programs and activities. An inherent objective when performing audits is to review and evaluate internal controls necessary to ensure fiscal accountability. Audits must be conducted in accordance with the current Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and subsequent Internal Auditing Standards or Statements on Internal Auditing Standards published by the Institute of Internal Auditors, Inc., or, where appropriate, in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards.⁵¹ Final reports are submitted to the agency head and the Auditor General, whose office is directed to give official recognition to their findings and recommendations as part of its post-audit responsibilities.⁵²

Each IG is required to prepare an annual report summarizing the annual activities of the OIG. The report is due September 30, following the preceding fiscal year. ⁵³

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill establishes an IG position for the FHFC and provides for the appointment and removal of the IG by the director with the advice and consent of the FHFC's board of directors (Board). The FHFC's IG will perform the duties of an agency inspector general as provided in IG will be required to meet the minimal qualifications established by law⁵⁴ and the Board is authorized to establish additional qualifications to meet the unique needs of the FHFC.

The bill amends the provisions of state law relating to the agency inspectors general to add the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to the definition of "State Agency" and the Board of Directors of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation to the definition of "Agency Head" thereby conferring the duties and responsibilities described above on the newly FHFC IG position.

⁴⁷ Chapter 473, F.S.

⁴⁸ Section 20.055(6), F.S.

⁴⁹ Section 20.055(6), F.S.

⁵⁰ Sections 112.3187-112.31895, F.S.

⁵¹ Section 20.055(5), F.S.

⁵² Section 20.055(5)(f) and (g), F.S.

⁵³ Section 20.055(7), F.S.

⁵⁴ Section 20.055(4), F.S.

The bill adjusts the reporting deadline for the FHFC IG's annual report to reflect the reporting period (calendar year) of the FHFC. The bill also removes the requirement for DCA's IG to serve as the FHFC's IG and removes an obsolete cross-reference.

Local Housing Finance Authorities

Current Law

State law prescribes the guidelines for local government investment policies for public funds in excess of the amounts needed to meet current expenses.⁵⁵ The law requires investment policies to be structured to place the highest priority on the safety of principal and liquidity of funds. It emphasizes that the optimization of investment returns is secondary to the requirements for safety and liquidity. Each unit of local government is required to adopt policies that are commensurate with the nature and size of the public funds within its custody.⁵⁶

Effect of the Proposed Changes

The bill authorizes local housing finance authorities (HFAs) to invest and reinvest surplus funds in accordance with the state's local government investment policies⁵⁷ and provides that in addition to the investments expressly authorized by law,⁵⁸ local HFAs are empowered to invest surplus funds in interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts that are fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) regardless of whether the bank or financial institution in which the deposit or investment is made is a "qualified public depository."⁵⁹

State restrictions, pertaining to "qualified public depositories" do not apply to some investments, including "public deposits which are fully secured under federal regulations." The bill includes explicit intent language to structure this empowerment as supplementary authority and to avoid interpretation as a limitation upon any powers of a local HFA. Legal counsel for some local housing finance authorities have opined that this waiver includes investments that are fully insured by the FDIC. However, proponents of the countervailing view have interpreted the language so that it does not include FDIC insured accounts. An auditor has suggested that a clarification would be beneficial. 61

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends s. 20.055 (1) and (7), F.S., relating to Agency Inspectors General.

Section 2: Creates s. 159.608(11), F.S., authorizing local housing finance authorities to invest and reinvest surplus funds.

Section 3: Amends s. 163.3177(6), F.S. providing that the housing element of certain local government comprehensive plans may include provisions that address housing for seniors; and providing for disposal of specified property.

Section 4: Amends s. 201.15 (9), (10), (13), F.S., removing the statutory limitations on the amount of documentary stamp revenue that is distributed to the State Housing Trust Fund and the Local Government Housing Trust Fund.

Section 5: Repeals section 8 of chapter 2009-131, L.O.F., retroactively to June 30, 2009.

Section 6: Amends s. 420.003(4), F.S., providing additional policy guidelines under the state housing strategy for the development of programs for housing production, rehabilitation, and finance to require persons with special needs to be included in the strategy's periodic review and report.

STORAGE NAME: h0639b.TEDAS.DOCX

⁵⁵ Section 218.415, F.S.

⁵⁶ Id.

⁵⁷ Section 218.415, F.S.

⁵⁸ Sections 218.415(16)((a)-(g) and (17)(a)-(d), F.S.

⁵⁹ Section 280.02(26), F.S.

⁶⁰ Section 280.03(3)(e), F.S.

⁶¹ Florida Association of Local Housing Finance Authorities, email and conversation with House Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee staff on February 28, 2011.

- **Section 7:** Creates s. 420.004(7) and (13), F.S., defining the terms "disabling condition" and "person with special needs."
- Section 8: Amends s. 420.0006, F.S., relating to the appointment of the Department of Community Affairs' Inspector General to act as the FHFC's Inspector General.
- Section 9: Amends s. 420.504(3), F.S., relating to the DCA secretary's power to designate a senior-level agency employee to serve as the DCA's ex officio and voting member of the FHFC board.
- **Section 10:** Amends s. 420.506, F.S., relating to the appointment and removal of the FHFC's Inspector General.
- Amends s. 420.507(22), F.S., extending low interest mortgage loans for the SAIL Program to sponsors of projects who set aside units for persons with special needs; creates s. 420.507(33), F.S., to establish the authority of the FHFC to administer programs receiving federal funding for which no corresponding program has been previously created by statute; amends s. 420.507(47), F.S., deleting criteria for domiciled builder preference language and replacing that criteria with criteria which favors the highest rate of Florida job creation; and amends s. 420.507(46), F.S., to correct cross-references.
- Section 12: Amends s. 420.5087(3) and (6), F.S., including persons with special needs as a tenant group for specified purposes of the SAIL Program; and modifying the competitive criteria that must be considered when DCA and the FHFC staff are evaluating and ranking applications under the SAIL Program.
- **Section 13:** Amends s. 163.31771, F.S., relating to accessory dwelling units, to conform cross-references.
- **Section 14:** Amends s. 212.08, F.S., relating to sales and use tax, to conform cross-references.
- **Section 15:** Amends s. 215.5586, F.S., relating to the My Safe Florida Home Program, to conform cross-references.
- **Section 16:** Amends s. 420.503, F.S., relating to definition, to conform cross-references.
- **Section 17:** Provides that funds from various affordable housing trust funds and programs may not be used to finance or otherwise assist new construction until July 1, 2012.
- Section 18: Provides an effective date of July 1, 2011.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

The Revenue Estimating Conference consensus estimate found there would be no impact to cash in the 2011-2012 fiscal year. However, based on a four-year outlook there would be an annualized negative impact to recurring general revenue of \$25 million and an annualized positive recurring impact to the state housing trust funds in the same amount.

2. Expenditures:

None.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

The bill contains provisions that direct funds from various affordable housing trust funds and programs may not be used to finance or otherwise assist new construction until July 1, 2012. These provisions are aimed at reducing the surplus of available homes on the market.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

See comments under FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

Not applicable because the bill does not appear to require the counties or cities to spend funds or take an action requiring the expenditure of funds; reduce the authority that cities or counties have to raise revenues in the aggregate; or reduce the percentage of a state tax shared with cities or counties.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

The bill establishes the authority of the FHFC to administer programs receiving federal funding for which no corresponding program has been previously created by statute and establish selection criteria for such funds by request for proposals or other competitive solicitation.

The bill requires the FHFC to develop rules for determining Florida job creation rate in the development and construction of affordable housing in its scoring and competitive evaluation of applications for the SAIL program.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

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A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to affordable housing; amending s. 20.055, F.S.; revising the definition of "state agency" to include the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; revising the definition of "agency head" to include the board of directors of the corporation; requiring the inspector general to prepare an annual report; amending s. 159.608, F.S.; providing a housing finance authority with an additional purpose for which it may exercise its power to borrow; amending s. 163.3177, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the elements of local comprehensive plans to authorize the inclusion of an element for affordable housing for certain seniors; providing for the disposition of real property by a local government for the development of affordable housing; amending s. 201.15, F.S.; revising the allocation of certain proceeds distributed from the excise tax on documents that are paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Housing Trust Fund; providing for retroactive repeal of s. 8, ch. 2009-131, Laws of Florida, to eliminate a conflicting version of s. 201.15, F.S.; amending s. 420.0003, F.S.; including the needs of persons with special needs in the state housing strategy's periodic review and report; amending s. 420.0004, F.S.; defining the terms "disabling condition" and "person with special needs"; conforming crossreferences; amending s. 420.0006, F.S.; removing an obsolete reference; deleting provisions requiring the inspector general of the Department of Community Affairs

Page 1 of 32

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to perform functions for the corporation to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 420.504, F.S.; authorizing the Secretary of Community Affairs to designate a senior-level agency employee to serve on the board of directors of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; amending s. 420.506, F.S.; providing for the appointment of an inspector general of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation; providing appointing authority thereof; providing duties and responsibilities of the inspector general; amending s. 420.507, F.S.; requiring certain rates of interest to be made available to sponsors of projects for persons with special needs; providing additional powers of the corporation relating to receipt of federal funds; revising powers of the corporation relating to criteria establishing a preference for eligible developers and general contractors; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 420.5087, F.S.; limiting the reservation of funds within each notice of fund availability to the persons with special needs tenant group; including persons with special needs as a tenant group for specified purposes of the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program; revising and providing criteria to be used by a specified review committee for the competitive ranking of applications for such program; conforming a cross-reference; amending ss. 163.31771, 212.08, 215.5586, and 420.503, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; providing legislative intent; prohibiting funds from the State Housing Trust Fund or the Local

Page 2 of 32

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

Government Housing Trust Fund that are appropriated for specified programs from being used for certain purposes; providing for future repeal; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (7) of section 20.055, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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- 20.055 Agency inspectors general.-
- (1) For the purposes of this section:
- (a) "State agency" means each department created pursuant to this chapter, and also includes the Executive Office of the Governor, the Department of Military Affairs, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the Office of Financial Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the Public Service Commission, the Board of Governors of the State University System, the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, and the state courts system.
- (b) "Agency head" means the Governor, a Cabinet officer, a secretary as defined in s. 20.03(5), or an executive director as defined in s. 20.03(6). It also includes the chair of the Public Service Commission, the Director of the Office of Insurance Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the Director of the Office of Financial Regulation of the Financial Services Commission, the board of directors of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, and the Chief Justice of the State Supreme

Page 3 of 32

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- (7) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), each inspector general shall, not later than September 30 of each year, prepare an annual report summarizing the activities of the office during the immediately preceding state fiscal year.
- (b) The inspector general of the Florida Housing Finance Corporation shall, not later than 90 days after the end of each fiscal year, prepare an annual report summarizing the activities of the office of inspector general during the immediately preceding fiscal year.
- (c) The final reports prepared pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) report shall be furnished to the heads of the respective agencies agency head. Such report shall include, but need not be limited to:
- 1.(a) A description of activities relating to the development, assessment, and validation of performance measures.
- 2.(b) A description of significant abuses and deficiencies relating to the administration of programs and operations of the agency disclosed by investigations, audits, reviews, or other activities during the reporting period.
- 3.(e) A description of the recommendations for corrective action made by the inspector general during the reporting period with respect to significant problems, abuses, or deficiencies identified.
- $\underline{4.(d)}$ The identification of each significant recommendation described in previous annual reports on which corrective action has not been completed.
 - 5.(e) A summary of each audit and investigation completed

Page 4 of 32

113 during the reporting period.

Section 2. Subsection (11) is added to section 159.608, Florida Statutes, to read:

159.608 Powers of housing finance authorities.—A housing finance authority shall constitute a public body corporate and politic, exercising the public and essential governmental functions set forth in this act, and shall exercise its power to borrow only for the purpose as provided herein:

(11) To invest and reinvest surplus funds of the housing finance authority in accordance with s. 218.415. However, in addition to the investments expressly authorized in ss.

218.415(16)(a)-(g) and (17)(a)-(d), a housing finance authority may invest surplus funds in interest-bearing time deposits or savings accounts that are fully insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation regardless of whether the bank or financial institution in which the deposit or investment is made is a qualified public depository as defined in s. 280.02. This subsection is supplementary to and may not be construed as limiting any powers of a housing finance authority or providing or implying a limiting construction of any other statutory provision.

Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (6) of section 163.3177, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.—

(6) In addition to the requirements of subsections (1)-(5) and (12), the comprehensive plan shall include the following elements:

Page 5 of 32

(f)1. A housing element consisting of standards, plans, and principles to be followed in:

a. The provision of housing for all current and anticipated future residents of the jurisdiction.

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- b. The elimination of substandard dwelling conditions.
- c. The structural and aesthetic improvement of existing housing.
- d. The provision of adequate sites for future housing, including affordable workforce housing as defined in s. 380.0651(3)(j), housing for low-income, very low-income, and moderate-income families, mobile homes, and group home facilities and foster care facilities, with supporting infrastructure and public facilities. The element may include provisions that specifically address affordable housing for persons 60 years of age or older. Real property that is conveyed to a local government for affordable housing under this subsubparagraph shall be disposed of by the local government pursuant to s. 125.379 or s. 166.0451.
- e. Provision for relocation housing and identification of historically significant and other housing for purposes of conservation, rehabilitation, or replacement.
 - f. The formulation of housing implementation programs.
- g. The creation or preservation of affordable housing to minimize the need for additional local services and avoid the concentration of affordable housing units only in specific areas of the jurisdiction.
- h. Energy efficiency in the design and construction of new housing.

Page 6 of 32

i. Use of renewable energy resources.

- j. Each county in which the gap between the buying power of a family of four and the median county home sale price exceeds \$170,000, as determined by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, and which is not designated as an area of critical state concern shall adopt a plan for ensuring affordable workforce housing. At a minimum, the plan shall identify adequate sites for such housing. For purposes of this subsubparagraph, the term "workforce housing" means housing that is affordable to natural persons or families whose total household income does not exceed 140 percent of the area median income, adjusted for household size.
- k. As a precondition to receiving any state affordable housing funding or allocation for any project or program within the jurisdiction of a county that is subject to sub-subparagraph j., a county must, by July 1 of each year, provide certification that the county has complied with the requirements of sub-subparagraph j.

The goals, objectives, and policies of the housing element must be based on the data and analysis prepared on housing needs, including the affordable housing needs assessment. State and federal housing plans prepared on behalf of the local government must be consistent with the goals, objectives, and policies of the housing element. Local governments are encouraged to use job training, job creation, and economic solutions to address a portion of their affordable housing concerns.

2. To assist local governments in housing data collection

Page 7 of 32

and analysis and assure uniform and consistent information regarding the state's housing needs, the state land planning agency shall conduct an affordable housing needs assessment for all local jurisdictions on a schedule that coordinates the implementation of the needs assessment with the evaluation and appraisal reports required by s. 163.3191. Each local government shall utilize the data and analysis from the needs assessment as one basis for the housing element of its local comprehensive plan. The agency shall allow a local government the option to perform its own needs assessment, if it uses the methodology established by the agency by rule.

Section 4. Subsections (9), (10), and (13) of section 201.15, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

201.15 Distribution of taxes collected.—All taxes collected under this chapter are subject to the service charge imposed in s. 215.20(1). Prior to distribution under this section, the Department of Revenue shall deduct amounts necessary to pay the costs of the collection and enforcement of the tax levied by this chapter. Such costs and the service charge may not be levied against any portion of taxes pledged to debt service on bonds to the extent that the costs and service charge are required to pay any amounts relating to the bonds. After distributions are made pursuant to subsection (1), all of the costs of the collection and enforcement of the tax levied by this chapter and the service charge shall be available and transferred to the extent necessary to pay debt service and any other amounts payable with respect to bonds authorized before January 1, 2010, secured by revenues distributed pursuant to

Page 8 of 32

subsection (1). All taxes remaining after deduction of costs and the service charge shall be distributed as follows:

- (9) Seven and fifty-three hundredths The lesser of 7.53 percent of the remaining taxes or \$107 million in each fiscal year shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Housing Trust Fund and used as follows:
- (a) Half of that amount shall be used for the purposes for which the State Housing Trust Fund was created and exists by law.
- (b) Half of that amount shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the Local Government Housing Trust Fund and used for the purposes for which the Local Government Housing Trust Fund was created and exists by law.
- (10) <u>Eight and sixty-six hundredths</u> The lesser of 8.66 percent of the remaining taxes or \$136 million in each fiscal year shall be paid into the State Treasury to the credit of the State Housing Trust Fund and used as follows:
- (a) Twelve and one-half percent of that amount shall be deposited into the State Housing Trust Fund and be expended by the Department of Community Affairs and by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation for the purposes for which the State Housing Trust Fund was created and exists by law.
- (b) Eighty-seven and one-half percent of that amount shall be distributed to the Local Government Housing Trust Fund and used for the purposes for which the Local Government Housing Trust Fund was created and exists by law. Funds from this category may also be used to provide for state and local services to assist the homeless.

Page 9 of 32

(13) In each fiscal year that the remaining taxes exceed collections in the prior fiscal year, the stated maximum dollar amounts provided in subsections (2), (4), (6), and (7), (9), and (10) shall each be increased by an amount equal to 10 percent of the increase in the remaining taxes collected under this chapter multiplied by the applicable percentage provided in those subsections.

Section 5. Section 8 of chapter 2009-131, Laws of Florida, is repealed, retroactive to June 30, 2009.

Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 420.0003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.0003 State housing strategy.-

- (4) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Department of Community Affairs and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation in carrying out the strategy articulated herein shall have the following duties:
- (c) The Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing, in consultation with the Department of Community Affairs and the Florida Housing Finance Corporation, shall review and evaluate existing housing rehabilitation, production, and finance programs to determine their consistency with relevant policies in this section and identify the needs of specific populations, including, but not limited to, elderly persons, and handicapped persons, and persons with special needs, and shall recommend statutory modifications where appropriate. The Shimberg Center for Affordable Housing, in consultation with the Department of Community Affairs and the corporation, shall also evaluate the degree of coordination between state housing programs, and between state, federal, and local housing activities, and shall

Page 10 of 32

recommend improved program linkages. The recommendations required above and a report of any programmatic modifications made as a result of these policies shall be included in the housing report required by s. 420.6075, beginning December 31, 1991, and every 5 years thereafter.

Section 7. Section 420.0004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.0004 Definitions.—As used in this part, unless the context otherwise indicates:

- (1) "Adjusted for family size" means adjusted in a manner which results in an income eligibility level which is lower for households with fewer than four people, or higher for households with more than four people, than the base income eligibility determined as provided in subsection (9) (8), subsection (11) (10), subsection (12) (11), or subsection (17) (15), based upon a formula as established by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- (2) "Adjusted gross income" means all wages, assets, regular cash or noncash contributions or gifts from persons outside the household, and such other resources and benefits as may be determined to be income by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, adjusted for family size, less deductions allowable under s. 62 of the Internal Revenue Code.
- (3) "Affordable" means that monthly rents or monthly mortgage payments including taxes, insurance, and utilities do not exceed 30 percent of that amount which represents the percentage of the median adjusted gross annual income for the

Page 11 of 32

households as indicated in subsection (9) (8), subsection (11) (10), subsection (12) (11), or subsection (17) (15).

(4) "Corporation" means the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

- (5) "Community-based organization" or "nonprofit organization" means a private corporation organized under chapter 617 to assist in the provision of housing and related services on a not-for-profit basis and which is acceptable to federal and state agencies and financial institutions as a sponsor of low-income housing.
- (6) "Department" means the Department of Community Affairs.
- (7) "Disabling condition" means a diagnosable substance abuse disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, or chronic physical illness or disability, or the co-occurrence of two or more of these conditions, and a determination that the condition is:
- (a) Expected to be of long-continued and indefinite duration; and
- (b) Not expected to impair the ability of the person with special needs to live independently with appropriate supports.
- (8) (7) "Elderly" describes persons 62 years of age or older.
- (9)(8) "Extremely-low-income persons" means one or more natural persons or a family whose total annual household income does not exceed 30 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state. The Florida Housing Finance Corporation may adjust this amount annually by rule to

Page 12 of 32

provide that in lower income counties, extremely low income may exceed 30 percent of area median income and that in higher income counties, extremely low income may be less than 30 percent of area median income.

(10)(9) "Local public body" means any county, municipality, or other political subdivision, or any housing authority as provided by chapter 421, which is eligible to sponsor or develop housing for farmworkers and very-low-income and low-income persons within its jurisdiction.

(11) (10) "Low-income persons" means one or more natural persons or a family, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which does not exceed 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 80 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater.

(12)(11) "Moderate-income persons" means one or more natural persons or a family, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which is less than 120 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the state, or 120 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater.

(13) "Person with special needs" means an adult person requiring independent living services in order to maintain housing or develop independent living skills and who has a

Page 13 of 32

disabling condition; a young adult formerly in foster care who is eligible for services under s. 409.1451(5); a survivor of domestic violence as defined in s. 741.28; or a person receiving benefits under the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) program or the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) program or from veterans' disability benefits.

(14) (12) "Student" means any person not living with his or her parent or guardian who is eligible to be claimed by his or her parent or guardian as a dependent under the federal income tax code and who is enrolled on at least a half-time basis in a secondary school, career center, community college, college, or university.

(15) (13) "Substandard" means:

- (a) Any unit lacking complete plumbing or sanitary facilities for the exclusive use of the occupants;
- (b) A unit which is in violation of one or more major sections of an applicable housing code and where such violation poses a serious threat to the health of the occupant; or
- (c) A unit that has been declared unfit for human habitation but that could be rehabilitated for less than 50 percent of the property value.
- (16) (14) "Substantial rehabilitation" means repair or restoration of a dwelling unit where the value of such repair or restoration exceeds 40 percent of the value of the dwelling.
- (17) (15) "Very-low-income persons" means one or more natural persons or a family, not including students, the total annual adjusted gross household income of which does not exceed 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for

Page 14 of 32

households within the state, or 50 percent of the median annual adjusted gross income for households within the metropolitan statistical area (MSA) or, if not within an MSA, within the county in which the person or family resides, whichever is greater.

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418 419 Section 8. Section 420.0006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.0006 Authority to contract with corporation; contract requirements; nonperformance. The secretary of the department shall contract, notwithstanding the provisions of part I of chapter 287, with the Florida Housing Finance Corporation on a multiyear basis to stimulate, provide, and foster affordable housing in the state. The contract must incorporate the performance measures required by s. 420.511 and must be consistent with the provisions of the corporation's strategic plan prepared in accordance with s. 420.511 and compatible with s. 216.0166. The contract must provide that, in the event the corporation fails to comply with any of the performance measures required by s. 420.511, the secretary shall notify the Governor and shall refer the nonperformance to the department's inspector general for review and determination as to whether such failure is due to forces beyond the corporation's control or whether such failure is due to inadequate management of the corporation's resources. Advances shall continue to be made pursuant to s. 420.0005 during the pendency of the review by the department's inspector general. If such failure is due to outside forces, it shall not be deemed a violation of the contract. If such failure is due to inadequate management, the

Page 15 of 32

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446 447 department's inspector general shall provide recommendations regarding solutions. The Governor is authorized to resolve any differences of opinion with respect to performance under the contract and may request that advances continue in the event of a failure under the contract due to inadequate management. The Chief Financial Officer shall approve the request absent a finding by the Chief Financial Officer that continuing such advances would adversely impact the state; however, in any event the Chief Financial Officer shall provide advances sufficient to meet the debt service requirements of the corporation and sufficient to fund contracts committing funds from the State Housing Trust Fund so long as such contracts are in accordance with the laws of this state. The department inspector general shall perform for the corporation the functions set forth in s. 20.055 and report to the secretary of the department. The corporation shall be deemed an agency for the purposes of s. 20.055.

Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 420.504, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

420.504 Public corporation; creation, membership, terms, expenses.—

(3) The corporation is a separate budget entity and is not subject to control, supervision, or direction by the Department of Community Affairs in any manner, including, but not limited to, personnel, purchasing, transactions involving real or personal property, and budgetary matters. The corporation shall consist of a board of directors composed of the Secretary of Community Affairs as an ex officio and voting member, or a

Page 16 of 32

senior-level agency employee designated by the secretary, and eight members appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the Senate from the following:

- (a) One citizen actively engaged in the residential home building industry.
- (b) One citizen actively engaged in the banking or mortgage banking industry.

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- (c) One citizen who is a representative of those areas of labor engaged in home building.
- (d) One citizen with experience in housing development who is an advocate for low-income persons.
- (e) One citizen actively engaged in the commercial building industry.
- (f) One citizen who is a former local government elected official.
- (g) Two citizens of the state who are not principally employed as members or representatives of any of the groups specified in paragraphs (a)-(f).
- Section 10. Section 420.506, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 420.506 Executive director; agents and employees; inspector general.—
- (1) The appointment and removal of an executive director shall be by the Secretary of Community Affairs, with the advice and consent of the corporation's board of directors. The executive director shall employ legal and technical experts and such other agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as the corporation may require, and shall communicate with and provide

Page 17 of 32

information to the Legislature with respect to the corporation's activities. The board is authorized, notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.262, to develop and implement rules regarding the employment of employees of the corporation and service providers, including legal counsel. The board of directors of the corporation is entitled to establish travel procedures and guidelines for employees of the corporation. The executive director's office and the corporation's files and records must be located in Leon County.

shall be by the executive director, with the advice and consent of the corporation's board of directors. The corporation's inspector general shall perform for the corporation the functions set forth in s. 20.055. The inspector general shall administratively report to the executive director. The inspector general shall meet the minimum qualifications as set forth s. 20.055(4). The corporation may establish additional qualifications deemed necessary by the board of directors to meet the unique needs of the corporation. The inspector general shall be responsible for coordinating the responsibilities set forth in s. 420.0006.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (22) and subsections (33), (46), and (47) of section 420.507, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

420.507 Powers of the corporation.—The corporation shall have all the powers necessary or convenient to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this part, including

the following powers which are in addition to all other powers granted by other provisions of this part:

- (22) To develop and administer the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program. In developing and administering that program, the corporation may:
- (a) Make first, second, and other subordinated mortgage loans including variable or fixed rate loans subject to contingent interest for all State Apartment Incentive Loans provided in this chapter based upon available cash flow of the projects. The corporation shall make loans exceeding 25 percent of project cost only to nonprofit organizations and public bodies that are able to secure grants, donations of land, or contributions from other sources and to projects meeting the criteria of subparagraph 1. Mortgage loans shall be made available at the following rates of interest:
- 1. Zero to 3 percent interest for sponsors of projects that set aside at least 80 percent of their total units for residents qualifying as farmworkers, commercial fishing workers, or the homeless as defined in s. 420.621, or persons with special needs as defined in s. 420.0004(13) over the life of the loan.
- 2. Zero to 3 percent interest based on the pro rata share of units set aside for homeless residents or persons with special needs if the total of such units is less than 80 percent of the units in the borrower's project.
- 3. One to 9 percent interest for sponsors of projects targeted at populations other than farmworkers, commercial fishing workers, or the homeless, or persons with special needs.

Page 19 of 32

(33) To receive federal funding in connection with the corporation's programs directly from the Federal Government and to receive federal funds for which no corresponding program has been created in statute and establish selection criteria for such funds by request for proposals or other competitive solicitation.

- (46) To require, as a condition of financing a multifamily rental project, that an agreement be recorded in the official records of the county where the real property is located, which requires that the project be used for housing defined as affordable in s. 420.0004(3) by persons defined in s. 420.0004(9)(8), (11)(10), (12)(11), and (17)(15). Such an agreement is a state land use regulation that limits the highest and best use of the property within the meaning of s. 193.011(2).
- (47) To provide by rule, in connection with any corporation competitive program, criteria establishing, where all other competitive elements are equal, a preference for developers and general contractors who demonstrate the highest rate of Florida job creation in the development and construction of affordable housing domiciled in this state and for developers and general contractors, regardless of domicile, who have substantial experience in developing or building affordable housing through the corporation's programs.
- (a) In evaluating whether a developer or general contractor is domiciled in this state, the corporation shall consider whether the developer's or general contractor's principal office is located in this state and whether a majority

Page 20 of 32

of the developer's or general contractor's principals and financial beneficiaries reside in Florida.

(b) In evaluating whether a developer or general contractor has substantial experience, the corporation shall consider whether the developer or general contractor has completed at least five developments using funds either provided by or administered by the corporation.

Section 12. Subsection (3) and paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 420.5087, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

420.5087 State Apartment Incentive Loan Program.—There is hereby created the State Apartment Incentive Loan Program for the purpose of providing first, second, or other subordinated mortgage loans or loan guarantees to sponsors, including forprofit, nonprofit, and public entities, to provide housing affordable to very-low-income persons.

(3) During the first 6 months of loan or loan guarantee availability, program funds shall be reserved for use by sponsors who provide the housing set-aside required in subsection (2) for the tenant groups designated in this subsection. The reservation of funds to each of these groups shall be determined using the most recent statewide very-low-income rental housing market study available at the time of publication of each notice of fund availability required by paragraph (6)(b). The reservation of funds within each notice of fund availability to the tenant groups in paragraphs (a), (b), and (e) (d) may not be less than 10 percent of the funds available at that time. Any increase in funding required to reach the 10-percent minimum must be taken from the tenant group

Page 21 of 32

that has the largest reservation. The reservation of funds within each notice of fund availability to the tenant group in paragraph (c) may not be less than 5 percent of the funds available at that time. The reservation of funds within each notice of fund availability to the tenant group in paragraph (d) may not be more than 10 percent of the funds available at that time. The tenant groups are:

- (a) Commercial fishing workers and farmworkers;
- (b) Families;

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- (c) Persons who are homeless;
- (d) Persons with special needs; and

(e) (d) Elderly persons. Ten percent of the amount reserved for the elderly shall be reserved to provide loans to sponsors of housing for the elderly for the purpose of making building preservation, health, or sanitation repairs or improvements which are required by federal, state, or local regulation or code, or lifesafety or security-related repairs or improvements to such housing. Such a loan may not exceed \$750,000 per housing community for the elderly. In order to receive the loan, the sponsor of the housing community must make a commitment to match at least 5 percent of the loan amount to pay the cost of such repair or improvement. The corporation shall establish the rate of interest on the loan, which may not exceed 3 percent, and the term of the loan, which may not exceed 15 years; however, if the lien of the corporation's encumbrance is subordinate to the lien of another mortgagee, then the term may be made coterminous with the longest term of the superior lien. The term of the loan shall be based on a credit analysis of the applicant. The

Page 22 of 32

corporation may forgive indebtedness for a share of the loan attributable to the units in a project reserved for extremely-low-income elderly by nonprofit organizations, as defined in s. 420.0004(5), where the project has provided affordable housing to the elderly for 15 years or more. The corporation shall establish, by rule, the procedure and criteria for receiving, evaluating, and competitively ranking all applications for loans under this paragraph. A loan application must include evidence of the first mortgagee's having reviewed and approved the sponsor's intent to apply for a loan. A nonprofit organization or sponsor may not use the proceeds of the loan to pay for administrative costs, routine maintenance, or new construction.

- (6) On all state apartment incentive loans, except loans made to housing communities for the elderly to provide for lifesafety, building preservation, health, sanitation, or security-related repairs or improvements, the following provisions shall apply:
- (c) The corporation shall provide by rule for the establishment of a review committee composed of the department and corporation staff and shall establish by rule a scoring system for evaluation and competitive ranking of applications submitted in this program, including, but not limited to, the following criteria:
- 1. Tenant income and demographic targeting objectives of the corporation.
- 2. Targeting objectives of the corporation which will ensure an equitable distribution of loans between rural and urban areas.

Page 23 of 32

3. Sponsor's agreement to reserve the units for persons or families who have incomes below 50 percent of the state or local median income, whichever is higher, for a time period to exceed the minimum required by federal law or the provisions of this part.

4. Sponsor's agreement to reserve more than:

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- a. Twenty percent of the units in the project for persons or families who have incomes that do not exceed 50 percent of the state or local median income, whichever is higher; or
- b. Forty percent of the units in the project for persons or families who have incomes that do not exceed 60 percent of the state or local median income, whichever is higher, without requiring a greater amount of the loans as provided in this section.
 - 5. Provision for tenant counseling.
- 6. Sponsor's agreement to accept rental assistance certificates or vouchers as payment for rent.
- 7. Projects requiring the least amount of a state apartment incentive loan compared to overall project cost except that the share of the loan attributable to units serving extremely-low-income persons shall be excluded from this requirement.
- 8. Local government contributions and local government comprehensive planning and activities that promote affordable housing.
 - 9. Project feasibility.
 - 10. Economic viability of the project.
- 670 11. Commitment of first mortgage financing.

Page 24 of 32

12. Sponsor's prior experience, including whether the
developer and general contractor have substantial experience, as
provided in s. 420.507(47).

13. Sponsor's ability to proceed with construction.

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- 14. Projects that directly implement or assist welfare-to-work transitioning.
- 15. Projects that reserve units for extremely-low-income persons.
 - 16. Projects that include green building principles, storm-resistant construction, or other elements that reduce long-term costs relating to maintenance, utilities, or insurance.
 - 17. <u>Job-creation rate</u> Domicile of the developer and general contractor, as provided in s. 420.507(47).

Section 13. Paragraphs (d), (e), (f), and (g) of subsection (2) of section 163.31771, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

163.31771 Accessory dwelling units.-

- (2) As used in this section, the term:
- (d) "Low-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. $420.0004(11)\frac{(10)}{(10)}$.
 - (e) "Moderate-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. $420.0004(12)\frac{(11)}{11}$.
 - (f) "Very-low-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. 420.0004(17)(15).
- (g) "Extremely-low-income persons" has the same meaning as in s. $420.0004(9)\frac{(8)}{(8)}$.

Page 25 of 32

Section 14. Paragraph (o) of subsection (5) of section 212.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.08 Sales, rental, use, consumption, distribution, and storage tax; specified exemptions.—The sale at retail, the rental, the use, the consumption, the distribution, and the storage to be used or consumed in this state of the following are hereby specifically exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter.

(5) EXEMPTIONS; ACCOUNT OF USE.-

- (o) Building materials in redevelopment projects.-
- 1. As used in this paragraph, the term:
- a. "Building materials" means tangible personal property that becomes a component part of a housing project or a mixed-use project.
- b. "Housing project" means the conversion of an existing manufacturing or industrial building to housing units in an urban high-crime area, enterprise zone, empowerment zone, Front Porch Community, designated brownfield area, or urban infill area and in which the developer agrees to set aside at least 20 percent of the housing units in the project for low-income and moderate-income persons or the construction in a designated brownfield area of affordable housing for persons described in s. $420.0004\underline{(9)}(8)$, $\underline{(11)}(10)$, $\underline{(12)}(11)$, or $\underline{(17)}(15)$ or in s. 159.603(7).
- c. "Mixed-use project" means the conversion of an existing manufacturing or industrial building to mixed-use units that include artists' studios, art and entertainment services, or other compatible uses. A mixed-use project must be located in an

Page 26 of 32

urban high-crime area, enterprise zone, empowerment zone, Front Porch Community, designated brownfield area, or urban infill area, and the developer must agree to set aside at least 20 percent of the square footage of the project for low-income and moderate-income housing.

d. "Substantially completed" has the same meaning as provided in s. 192.042(1).

- 2. Building materials used in the construction of a housing project or mixed-use project are exempt from the tax imposed by this chapter upon an affirmative showing to the satisfaction of the department that the requirements of this paragraph have been met. This exemption inures to the owner through a refund of previously paid taxes. To receive this refund, the owner must file an application under oath with the department which includes:
 - a. The name and address of the owner.
- b. The address and assessment roll parcel number of the project for which a refund is sought.
 - c. A copy of the building permit issued for the project.
- d. A certification by the local building code inspector that the project is substantially completed.
- e. A sworn statement, under penalty of perjury, from the general contractor licensed in this state with whom the owner contracted to construct the project, which statement lists the building materials used in the construction of the project and the actual cost thereof, and the amount of sales tax paid on these materials. If a general contractor was not used, the owner shall provide this information in a sworn statement, under

Page 27 of 32

penalty of perjury. Copies of invoices evidencing payment of sales tax must be attached to the sworn statement.

- 3. An application for a refund under this paragraph must be submitted to the department within 6 months after the date the project is deemed to be substantially completed by the local building code inspector. Within 30 working days after receipt of the application, the department shall determine if it meets the requirements of this paragraph. A refund approved pursuant to this paragraph shall be made within 30 days after formal approval of the application by the department.
- 4. The department shall establish by rule an application form and criteria for establishing eligibility for exemption under this paragraph.
- 5. The exemption shall apply to purchases of materials on or after July 1, 2000.

Section 15. Paragraphs (a) and (g) of subsection (2) of section 215.5586, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

215.5586 My Safe Florida Home Program.—There is established within the Department of Financial Services the My Safe Florida Home Program. The department shall provide fiscal accountability, contract management, and strategic leadership for the program, consistent with this section. This section does not create an entitlement for property owners or obligate the state in any way to fund the inspection or retrofitting of residential property in this state. Implementation of this program is subject to annual legislative appropriations. It is the intent of the Legislature that the My Safe Florida Home Program provide trained and certified inspectors to perform

Page 28 of 32

inspections for owners of site-built, single-family, residential properties and grants to eligible applicants as funding allows. The program shall develop and implement a comprehensive and coordinated approach for hurricane damage mitigation that may include the following:

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- (2) MITIGATION GRANTS.—Financial grants shall be used to encourage single-family, site-built, owner-occupied, residential property owners to retrofit their properties to make them less vulnerable to hurricane damage.
- (a) For a homeowner to be eligible for a grant, the following criteria must be met:
- 1. The homeowner must have been granted a homestead exemption on the home under chapter 196.
- 2. The home must be a dwelling with an insured value of \$300,000 or less. Homeowners who are low-income persons, as defined in s. 420.0004(11)(10), are exempt from this requirement.
- 3. The home must have undergone an acceptable hurricane mitigation inspection after May 1, 2007.
- 4. The home must be located in the "wind-borne debris region" as that term is defined in s. 1609.2, International Building Code (2006), or as subsequently amended.
- 5. The building permit application for initial construction of the home must have been made before March 1, 2002.

An application for a grant must contain a signed or electronically verified statement made under penalty of perjury

Page 29 of 32

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

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that the applicant has submitted only a single application and must have attached documents demonstrating the applicant meets the requirements of this paragraph.

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- (g) Low-income homeowners, as defined in s.

 420.0004(11)(10), who otherwise meet the requirements of paragraphs (a), (c), (e), and (f) are eligible for a grant of up to \$5,000 and are not required to provide a matching amount to receive the grant. Additionally, for low-income homeowners, grant funding may be used for repair to existing structures leading to any of the mitigation improvements provided in paragraph (e), limited to 20 percent of the grant value. The program may accept a certification directly from a low-income homeowner that the homeowner meets the requirements of s.

 420.0004(11)(10) if the homeowner provides such certification in a signed or electronically verified statement made under penalty of perjury.
- Section 16. Subsection (19) of section 420.503, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 420.503 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:
- (19) "Housing for the elderly" means, for purposes of s. 420.5087(3)(e)(d), any nonprofit housing community that is financed by a mortgage loan made or insured by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development under s. 202, s. 202 with a s. 8 subsidy, s. 221(d)(3) or (4), or s. 236 of the National Housing Act, as amended, and that is subject to income limitations established by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, or any program funded by the Rural Development Agency of the United States Department of

Page 30 of 32

Agriculture and subject to income limitations established by the United States Department of Agriculture. A project which qualifies for an exemption under the Fair Housing Act as housing for older persons as defined by s. 760.29(4) shall qualify as housing for the elderly for purposes of s. 420.5087(3) (e) (d) and for purposes of any loans made pursuant to s. 420.508. In addition, if the corporation adopts a qualified allocation plan pursuant to s. 42(m)(1)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code or any other rules that prioritize projects targeting the elderly for purposes of allocating tax credits pursuant to s. 420.5099 or for purposes of the HOME program under s. 420.5089, a project which qualifies for an exemption under the Fair Housing Act as housing for older persons as defined by s. 760.29(4) shall qualify as a project targeted for the elderly, if the project satisfies the other requirements set forth in this part.

Section 17. (1) The Legislature finds that due to the current economic conditions in the housing market there is a critical need to rehabilitate or sell excess inventory of unsold homes, including foreclosed homes and newly constructed homes, as well as a critical need for the rehabilitation and preservation of older, affordable apartments. The Legislature further finds that there is a critical need to create housing-related jobs and that these conditions require the targeting of state and local housing trust fund moneys to assist in the sale or rehabilitation of existing homes and the preservation and rehabilitation of older rental apartments.

(2) Notwithstanding ss. 420.507(22)(a) and (23)(a), 420.5087(6)(1), 420.5088, 420.5095, and 420.9075(1)(b) and

Page 31 of 32

(5) (b), Florida Statutes, funds from the State Housing Trust

Fund or the Local Government Housing Trust Fund that are

appropriated for use in the State Apartment Incentive Loan

Program, Florida Homeownership Assistance Program, Community

Workforce Housing Innovation Pilot Program, or the State Housing

Initiatives Partnership Program may not be used to:

- (a) Finance or otherwise assist the construction or purchase of housing sold to eligible individuals, unless the housing unit being sold had an initial certificate of occupancy prior to December 31, 2010; or
- (b) Finance or otherwise assist in the construction or purchase of rental housing, unless the development being financed or assisted received its initial certificate of occupancy prior to December 31, 1996.

Nothing in this section restricts the use of such funds to assist with the purchase of newly constructed homes that were completed prior to December 31, 2010, or the acquisition and rehabilitation of apartments that received their initial certificate of occupancy prior to December 31, 1996. The use of such funds is subject to the restrictions of the program under which the funding is made available.

(3) This section expires July 1, 2012.
Section 18. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

Page 32 of 32

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: PCB TEDAS 11-03 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles **SPONSOR(S):** Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

TIED BILLS: IDEN./SIM. BILLS:

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
Orig. Comm.: Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee		Rayman	Davis Ghi

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

Proposed Committee Bill TEDAS 11-03 provides for the consolidation of functions within the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles by eliminating the Divisions of Driver Licenses and Motor Vehicles and creating the Division of Motorist Services. The bill makes changes to cross references throughout Florida Statutes, conforming to the new division.

The bill continues the transition of all driver license issuance services to tax collectors who are Constitutional officers. Specifically, the bill:

- Authorizes a tax collector to establish a branch office to conduct state business;
- Authorizes all county tax collectors, who are constitutional officers, as driver license agents upon such application;
- Provides all tax collectors, who are constitutional officers, shall assume all driver license issuance services by December 31, 2013;
- Authorizes the department to adopt rules and allow counties to create agreements to provide driver license services across county lines;
- Provides for revenue sharing between the department and tax collectors for replacement driver licenses and replacement identification cards.

The bill conforms to the House of Representatives proposed General Appropriations Act by realigning the department's budget authority to accommodate their structural shift to the Division of Motorist Services, and reduces budget authority to further the transition of driver license services to tax collectors.

The bill is estimated to have a positive fiscal impact on the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund; approximately \$2.1 million in FY 2011-12.

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives. STORAGE NAME : pcb03.TEDAS.DOCX

DATE: 3/18/2011

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Current Situation

Chapter 20, F.S., provides the organizational structure for the various departments. Currently, section 20.24, F.S., provides for the establishment of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and three divisions within its structure to maintain safety on the highways, directly and in a supporting role. These are the Division of the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), Division of Driver Licenses (DL), and the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Chapter 322, F.S., provides for driver license issuance, driver regulation, driver education, and problem driver improvement. Currently, the department shall authorize any or all tax collectors to serve as agents of the department upon application for specified driver's license services. However, all revenues associated with replacement driver licenses and identification cards are deposited in either the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund or the General Revenue Fund, regardless of whether the department or a tax collector provides the service. This section also provides that the department, in conjunction with Florida Tax Collectors Association and the Florida Association of Counties, develop a plan to transition all driver license issuance services to county tax collectors and report their findings to the Legislature.

Proposed Changes

This bill amends section 20.24, F.S., to create a Division of Motorist Services within the department while eliminating the Division of Driver Licenses (DL) and the Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) as two separate entities. The Division of Motorist Services is a merger of the DL and the DMV. Since the two divisions have similar functions and serve the same customers, merging the divisions will allow the department to capitalize on operational efficiencies and result in cost savings while enhancing customer service delivery.

This bill creates section 218.337, F.S, to provide that a tax collector may establish one or more branch offices by acquiring title to real property or by lease agreement. The tax collector may staff such branch offices to conduct state business only upon execution of an interagency agreement or, if authorized to do so by resolution of the county governing body, conduct business pursuant to s. (1) (k), Art. VIII of the State Constitution. The Department of Financial Services shall rely on the tax collector's determination that a branch office is necessary and shall base its approval of the tax collector's budget in accordance with the procedures of section 195.087(2), F.S.

This bill amends section 322.135, F.S., to provide that the department shall, upon application, authorize by interagency agreement all of the tax collectors who are constitutional officers to provide specified driver's license services.¹ All driver license issuance services shall be assumed by these tax collectors no later than December 31, 2013.

The department is authorized to adopt rules to create exceptions for small counties who cannot provide full driver license services; and counties may create inter-local agreements to provide licensing services across county lines. This section is also amended to delete language regarding the development and submittal of the transition plan.

Finally, the bill amends section 322.21(1), F.S., providing a revenue sharing arrangement between the department and the tax collector, depending on who provides the service. This bill allows the tax collector to retain the portion of funds previously deposited into the Highway Safety Highway Operating Trust Fund for all replacement driver license and identification cards issued at a tax collector office.

DATE: 3/18/2011

¹ Tax Collectors are constitutional officers in 64 of 67 counties. Dade, Broward, and Volusia counties are the three exceptions. STORAGE NAME: pcb03.TEDAS.DOCX

PAGE: 2

The Tax Collector would retain \$7 of the \$25 fee if they issue a replacement driver's license and \$9 of the \$25 fee if they issue a replacement identification card.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1. Amends section 20.24, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 2. Amends section 218.337, F.S., adds paragraph to allow tax collector to establish branch office to conduct state business upon execution of an interagency agreement.

Section 3. Amends section 288.816, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 4. Amends section 311.121, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 5. Amends section 316.1957, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 6. Amends section 316.613, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 7. Amends section 318.15, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 8. Amends section 320.05, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 9. Amends section 320.275, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 10. Amends section 322.02, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 11. Amends section 322.135, F.S., amends the section to authorize by an interagency agreement that tax collectors as constitutional officers under s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, may serve as the department's agent to issue driver's licenses.

Section 12. Amends section 322.20, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 13. Amends section 322.202, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 14. Amends section 322.21, F.S., conforming to the new division and amending language to allow for revenue sharing by the tax collector if the replacement driver's license or replacement identification card is issued by the tax collector.

Section 15. Amends section 413.012, F.S., conforming to the new division.

Section 16. Provides the bill an effective date of July 1, 2011.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS & ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

Based on driver license and identification issuances, current projections for the revenue sharing arrangement indicate an approximate loss of revenue of \$3.1M in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund for FY 2011-12.

2. Expenditures:

STORAGE NAME: pcb03.TEDAS.DOCX

PAGE: 3

Savings from facility operating costs and salaries and benefits are estimated at \$5.1M for FY 2011-12.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

Based on driver license and identification issuances, current projections for the revenue sharing arrangement indicate an approximate increase of revenue for tax collectors of \$3.1M for FY 2011-12.

2. Expenditures:

Indeterminate. Personnel and facility operating cost needs of individual tax collectors involved in this transition cannot be quantified at this time.

C. DIRECT ECONOMIC IMPACT ON PRIVATE SECTOR:

None.

D. FISCAL COMMENTS:

Based on transition plan recommendations between the department and the tax collectors, this bill allows the tax collector to retain the portion of funds previously deposited into the Highway Safety Highway Operating Trust Fund for all replacement driver license and identification cards issued at a tax collector office. Issuance data from the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, indicates this arrangement would provide a total additional \$5,755,177 in revenues to the tax collectors upon full transition of license services. However, the trust fund would lose the same amount in funding.

Revenue Sharing Estimate:

FY 2011-12: \$3,050,244

FY 2012-13: \$4,489,038

FY 2013-14: \$5,467,418

FY 2014-15: \$5,755,177 (when full transition annualized)

Total savings comes from salaries and benefits, and facility operating costs for the state offices that would be closed during the transition. The cumulative effect, when coupled with the revenue sharing provisions, would give the department an annualized net savings estimated at \$16 million when fully implemented.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

1. Applicability of Municipality/County Mandates Provision:

This bill does not reduce the authority that municipalities have to raise revenue.

2. Other:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

STORAGE NAME: pcb03.TEDAS.DOCX

DATE: 3/18/2011

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

STORAGE NAME: pcb03.TEDAS.DOCX DATE: 3/18/2011

PCB TEDAS 11-03 2011

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; amending s. 20.24, F.S.; reorganizing the department into two divisions; removing provisions for the Divisions of Driver Licenses and Motor Vehicles; establishing the Division of Motorist Services; creating s. 218.337, F.S.; providing for a tax collector to establish branch offices to conduct state or county business; providing for approval of the tax collector's budget by the Department of Financial Services; amending ss. 288.816, 311.121, 316.1957, 316.613, 318.15, 320.05, 320.275, 322.20, and 413.012, F.S., relating to issuance of special license plates to officials of foreign governments, seaport security officer qualifications and training coordinating council, parking violations, child restraint devices, failure to comply or to appear, creation and maintenance of records, appointments to the Automobile Dealers Industry Advisory Board, records of the department, and disclosure of confidential records, respectively; conforming provisions to the reorganization of the department; specifying that creation and maintenance of records by the Division of Motorist Services pursuant to specified provisions shall not be regarded as law enforcement functions of agency recordkeeping; amending s. 322.02, F.S.; providing for the department to employ a director to serve as the executive officer of the Division of Motorist Services for administration of specified provisions relating to

Page 1 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

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PCB TEDAS 11-03 2011

driver's licenses; amending s. 322.135, F.S.; revising provisions for the department to authorize tax collectors to act as agents for the provision of driver's license services; providing for certain tax collectors to assume all driver's license issuance services; authorizing the department to adopt rules to exempt certain counties from providing such services; providing for a county tax collector to provide driver's license services for another county under an interlocal agreement; amending s. 322.202, F.S.; providing legislative findings relating to arrests based on information obtained from the Division of Motorist Services; amending s. 322.21, F.S.; revising distribution of certain fees collected for issuance of replacement driver's licenses and identification cards; revising certain duties to conform to the reorganization of the department; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 20.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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20.24 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.—
There is created a Department of Highway Safety and Motor
Vehicles.

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(1) The head of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is the Governor and Cabinet.

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(2) The following divisions, and bureaus within the divisions, of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor

Page 2 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

PCB TEDAS 11-03 2011

57 Vehicles are established:

- (a) Division of the Florida Highway Patrol.
- (b) Division of Motorist Services.
- (b) Division of Driver Licenses.
- (c) Division of Motor Vehicles.

Section 2. Section 218.337, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

218.337 Tax collectors; branch offices.—A tax collector may establish one or more branch offices by acquiring title to real property or by lease agreement. The tax collector may staff and equip such branch offices to conduct state business only upon execution of an interagency agreement or, if authorized to do so by resolution of the county governing body, conduct business pursuant to s. (1)(k), Art. VIII of the State Constitution. The department shall rely on the tax collector's determination that a branch office is necessary and shall base its approval of the tax collector's budget in accordance with the procedures of s. 195.087(2).

Section 3. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 288.816, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

288.816 Intergovernmental relations.-

(2) The Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development shall be responsible for all consular relations between the state and all foreign governments doing business in Florida. The office shall monitor United States laws and directives to ensure that all federal treaties regarding foreign privileges and immunities are properly observed. The office shall promulgate rules which shall:

Page 3 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

(e) Verify entitlement to issuance of special motor vehicle license plates by the Division of Motor Vehicles of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to honorary consuls or such other officials representing foreign governments who are not entitled to issuance of special Consul Corps license plates by the United States Government.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 311.121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 311.121 Qualifications, training, and certification of licensed security officers at Florida seaports.—
- (3) The Seaport Security Officer Qualification, Training, and Standards Coordinating Council is created under the Department of Law Enforcement.
- (a) The executive director of the Department of Law Enforcement shall appoint 11 members to the council, to include:
- 1. The seaport administrator of the Department of Law Enforcement.
 - 2. The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.
- 3. The director of the Division of Licensing of the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.
- 4. The administrator of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council.
- 5. Two seaport security directors from seaports designated under s. 311.09.
 - 6. One director of a state law enforcement academy.
 - 7. One representative of a local law enforcement agency.
 - 8. Two representatives of contract security services.
 - 9. One representative of the Division of Driver Licenses

Page 4 of 17

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113 of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

Section 5. Section 316.1957, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.1957 Parking violations; designated parking spaces for persons who have disabilities.—When evidence is presented in any court of the fact that any motor vehicle was parked in a properly designated parking space for persons who have disabilities in violation of s. 316.1955, it is prima facie evidence that the vehicle was parked and left in the space by the person, firm, or corporation in whose name the vehicle is registered and licensed according to the records of the department Division of Motor Vehicles.

Section 6. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 316.613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.613 Child restraint requirements.—

(1)

(b) The <u>department</u> Division of Motor Vehicles shall provide notice of the requirement for child restraint devices, which notice shall accompany the delivery of each motor vehicle license tag.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 318.15, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 318.15 Failure to comply with civil penalty or to appear; penalty.—
- (1)(a) If a person fails to comply with the civil penalties provided in s. 318.18 within the time period specified in s. 318.14(4), fails to enter into or comply with the terms of a penalty payment plan with the clerk of the court in accordance

Page 5 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

with ss. 318.14 and 28.246, fails to attend driver improvement school, or fails to appear at a scheduled hearing, the clerk of the court shall notify the Division of Driver Licenses of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles of such failure within 10 days after such failure. Upon receipt of such notice, the department shall immediately issue an order suspending the driver's license and privilege to drive of such person effective 20 days after the date the order of suspension is mailed in accordance with s. 322.251(1), (2), and (6). Any such suspension of the driving privilege which has not been reinstated, including a similar suspension imposed outside Florida, shall remain on the records of the department for a period of 7 years from the date imposed and shall be removed from the records after the expiration of 7 years from the date it is imposed.

Section 8. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and subsection (5) of section 320.05, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

320.05 Records of the department; inspection procedure;
lists and searches; fees.—

(3)

- (b) Fees therefor shall be charged and collected as follows:
- 1. For providing lists of motor vehicle or vessel records for the entire state, or any part or parts thereof, divided according to counties, a sum computed at a rate of not less than 1 cent nor more than 5 cents per item.
- 2. For providing noncertified photographic copies of motor vehicle or vessel documents, \$1 per page.
 - 3. For providing noncertified photographic copies of

Page 6 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

micrographic records, \$1 per page.

- 4. For providing certified copies of motor vehicle or vessel records, \$3 per record.
- 5. For providing noncertified computer-generated printouts of motor vehicle or vessel records, 50 cents per record.
- 6. For providing certified computer-generated printouts of motor vehicle or vessel records, \$3 per record.
- 7. For providing electronic access to motor vehicle, vessel, and mobile home registration data requested by tag, vehicle identification number, title number, or decal number, 50 cents per item.
- 8. For providing electronic access to driver's license status report by name, sex, and date of birth or by driver license number, 50 cents per item.
- 9. For providing lists of licensed mobile home dealers and manufacturers and recreational vehicle dealers and manufacturers, \$15 per list.
- 10. For providing lists of licensed motor vehicle dealers, \$25 per list.
 - 11. For each copy of a videotape record, \$15 per tape.
- 12. For each copy of the Division of Motorist Services

 Motor Vehicles Procedures Manual, \$25.
- (5) The creation and maintenance of records by the Division of Motorist Services within the department and the Division of Motor Vehicles pursuant to this chapter shall not be regarded as law enforcement functions of agency recordkeeping.
- Section 9. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 320.275, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

Page 7 of 17

320.275 Automobile Dealers Industry Advisory Board.—

- (2) MEMBERSHIP, TERMS, MEETINGS.-
- (a) The board shall be composed of 12 members. The executive director of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall appoint the members from names submitted by the entities for the designated categories the member will represent. The executive director shall appoint one representative of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, who must represent the Division of Motor Vehicles; two representatives of the independent motor vehicle industry as recommended by the Florida Independent Automobile Dealers Association; two representatives of the franchise motor vehicle industry as recommended by the Florida Automobile Dealers Association; one representative of the auction motor vehicle industry who is from an auction chain and is recommended by a group affiliated with the National Auto Auction Association; one representative of the auction motor vehicle industry who is from an independent auction and is recommended by a group affiliated with the National Auto Auction Association; one representative from the Department of Revenue; a Florida tax collector representative recommended by the Florida Tax Collectors Association; one representative from the Better Business Bureau; one representative from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, who must represent the Division of Consumer Services; and one representative of the insurance industry who writes motor vehicle dealer surety bonds.
 - (b) 1. The executive director shall appoint the following initial members to 1-year terms: one representative from the

Page 8 of 17

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motor vehicle auction industry who represents an auction chain, one representative from the independent motor vehicle industry, one representative from the franchise motor vehicle industry, one representative from the Department of Revenue, one Florida tax collector, and one representative from the Better Business Bureau.

- 2. The executive director shall appoint the following initial members to 2-year terms: one representative from the motor vehicle auction industry who represents an independent auction, one representative from the independent motor vehicle industry, one representative from the franchise motor vehicle industry, one representative from the Division of Consumer Services, one representative from the insurance industry, and one representative from the department Division of Motor Vehicles.
- 3. As the initial terms expire, the executive director shall appoint successors from the same designated category for terms of 2 years. If renominated, a member may succeed himself or herself.
- 4. The board shall appoint a chair and vice chair at its initial meeting and every 2 years thereafter.
- Section 10. Subsection (3) of section 322.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 322.02 Legislative intent; administration.-
- (3) The department shall employ a director, who is charged with the duty of serving as the executive officer of the Division of Motorist Services Driver Licenses of the department insofar as the administration of this chapter is concerned. He

Page 9 of 17

or she shall be subject to the supervision and direction of the department, and his or her official actions and decisions as executive officer shall be conclusive unless the same are superseded or reversed by the department or by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 11. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 322.135, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

322.135 Driver's license agents.-

- (1) The department shall, upon application, authorize by interagency agreement any or all of the tax collectors who are constitutional officers under s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution in the several counties of the state, subject to the requirements of law, in accordance with rules of the department, to serve as its agent for the provision of specified driver's license services.
- (a) These services shall be limited to the issuance of driver's licenses and identification cards as authorized by this chapter.
- (b) Each tax collector who is authorized by the department to provide driver's license services shall bear all costs associated with providing those services.
- (c) A service fee of \$6.25 shall be charged, in addition to the fees set forth in this chapter, for providing all services pursuant to this chapter. The service fee may not be charged:
- 1. More than once per customer during a single visit to a tax collector's office.

Page 10 of 17

2. For a reexamination requested by the Medical Advisory Board or required pursuant to s. 322.221.

- 3. For a voter registration transaction.
- 4. In violation of any federal or state law.
- (5) All driver's license issuance services shall be assumed by the tax collectors who are constitutional officers under s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution no later than December 31, 2013. The department, in conjunction with the Florida Tax Collectors Association and the Florida Association of Counties, shall develop a plan to transition all driver's license issuance services to the county tax collectors who are constitutional officers under s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution. The transition plan must be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or before February 1, 2011. The transition plan must include a timeline to complete the full transition of all driver's license issuance services no later than June 30, 2015, and may include, but is not limited to, recommendations on the use of regional service centers, interlocal agreements, and equipment.
- (7) The department may adopt rules to create exceptions for counties that cannot provide full driver's license services due to their small population. In addition, counties may enter into interlocal agreements providing for a county tax collector to provide driver's license services for another county.

Section 12. Subsections (9), (10), (13), (14), and (16) of section 322.20, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

322.20 Records of the department; fees; destruction of

Page 11 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

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The department may, upon application, furnish to any person, from its records the records of the Division of Driver Licenses, a list of the names, addresses, and birth dates of the licensed drivers of the entire state or any portion thereof by age group. In addition, the department may furnish to the courts, for the purpose of establishing jury selection lists, the names, addresses, and birth dates of the persons of the entire state or any portion thereof by age group having identification cards issued by the department. Each person who requests such information shall pay a fee, set by the department, of 1 cent per name listed, except that the department shall furnish such information without charge to the courts for the purpose of jury selection or to any state agency or to any state attorney, sheriff, or chief of police. Such court, state agency, state attorney, or law enforcement agency may not sell, give away, or allow the copying of such information. Noncompliance with this prohibition shall authorize the department to charge the noncomplying court, state agency, state attorney, or law enforcement agency the appropriate fee for any subsequent lists requested. The department may adopt rules necessary to implement this subsection.

(10) The <u>department</u> Division of Driver Licenses is authorized, upon application of any person and payment of the proper fees, to search and to assist such person in the search of the records of the department and make reports thereof and to make photographic copies of the departmental records and attestations thereof.

Page 12 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

implement a system that allows either parent of a minor, or a guardian, or other responsible adult who signed a minor's application for a driver's license to have Internet access through a secure website to inspect the minor's driver history record. Internet access to driver history records granted to a minor's parents, guardian, or other responsible adult shall be furnished by the department at no fee and shall terminate when the minor attains 18 years of age.

- (14) The department is authorized in accordance with chapter 257 to destroy reports, records, documents, papers, and correspondence in the Division of Driver Licenses which are considered obsolete.
- (16) The creation and maintenance of records by the Division of Motorist Services within the department and the Division of Driver Licenses pursuant to this chapter shall not be regarded as law enforcement functions of agency recordkeeping.

Section 13. Section 322.202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.202 Admission of evidence obtained from the Division of Motorist Services Driver Licenses and the Division of Motor Vehicles.
- (1) The Legislature finds that the Division of Motorist Services Driver Licenses and the Division of Motor Vehicles of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is are not a law enforcement agency agencies. The Legislature also finds that the division is not an adjunct divisions are not adjuncts of any

Page 13 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

law enforcement agency in that employees have no stake in particular prosecutions. The Legislature further finds that errors in records maintained by the <u>division</u> divisions are not within the collective knowledge of any law enforcement agency. The Legislature also finds that the missions of the division of Driver Licenses, the Division of Motor Vehicles, and the department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles provide a sufficient incentive to maintain records in a current and correct fashion.

- (2) The Legislature finds that the purpose of the exclusionary rule is to deter misconduct on the part of law enforcement officers and law enforcement agencies.
- (3) The Legislature finds that the application of the exclusionary rule to cases where a law enforcement officer effects an arrest based on objectively reasonable reliance on information obtained from the <u>division</u> <u>divisions</u> is repugnant to the purposes of the exclusionary rule and contrary to the decisions of the United States Supreme Court in Arizona v. Evans, 514 U.S. 1 (1995) and United States v. Leon, 468 U.S. 897 (1984).
- (4) In any case where a law enforcement officer effects an arrest based on objectively reasonable reliance on information obtained from the <u>division</u> divisions, evidence found pursuant to such an arrest shall not be suppressed by application of the exclusionary rule on the grounds that the arrest is subsequently determined to be unlawful due to erroneous information obtained from the division divisions.

Section 14. Paragraphs (e) and (f) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 322.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 322.21 License fees; procedure for handling and collecting fees.—
 - (1) Except as otherwise provided herein, the fee for:
- (e) A replacement driver's license issued pursuant to s. 322.17 is \$25. Of this amount \$7 shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund if issued by the department or retained by the tax collector if issued by the tax collector and \$18 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.
- (f) An original, renewal, or replacement identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.051 is \$25. Funds collected from these fees shall be distributed as follows:
- 1. For an original identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.051 the fee is \$25. This amount shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.
- 2. For a renewal identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.051 the fee is \$25. Of this amount, \$6 shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund and \$19 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.
- 3. For a replacement identification card issued pursuant to s. 322.051 the fee is \$25. Of this amount, \$9 shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund if issued by the department or retained by the tax collector if issued by the tax collector and \$16 shall be deposited into the General Revenue Fund.
 - (2) It is the duty of the <u>Division of Motorist Services to</u>

Page 15 of 17

provide Director of the Division of Driver Licenses to set up a division in the department with the necessary personnel to perform the necessary clerical and routine work for the department in issuing and recording applications, licenses, and certificates of eligibility, including the receiving and accounting of all license funds and their payment into the State Treasury, and other incidental clerical work connected with the administration of this chapter. The department may use such electronic, mechanical, or other devices as necessary to accomplish the purposes of this chapter.

Section 15. Subsection (2) of section 413.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

413.012 Confidential records disclosure prohibited; exemptions.—

(2) It is unlawful for any person to disclose, authorize the disclosure, solicit, receive, or make use of any list of names and addresses or any record containing any information set forth in subsection (1) and maintained in the division. The prohibition provided for in this subsection shall not apply to the use of such information for purposes directly connected with the administration of the vocational rehabilitation program or with the monthly dispatch to the Division of Driver Licenses of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles of the name in full, place and date of birth, sex, social security number, and resident address of individuals with central visual acuity 20/200 or less in the better eye with correcting glasses, or a disqualifying field defect in which the peripheral field has contracted to such an extent that the widest diameter or visual

field subtends an angular distance no greater than 20 degrees. When requested in writing by an applicant or client, or her or his representative, the Division of Blind Services shall release confidential information to the applicant or client or her or his representative.

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.

Page 17 of 17

PCB TEDAS 11-03.docx

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