

Committee on Commerce and Tourism

CS/HB 827 — Limited Agricultural Associations

by Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee; Rep. Porter and others (CS/CS/SB 222 by Agriculture Committee; Commerce and Tourism Committee; and Senator Siplin)

Limited agricultural associations were created by statute in 1941 as a way to enable agricultural producers in the state to benefit from a collective effort without the expenses imposed by a corporate structure. Currently, there are about 60 limited agricultural associations operating in Florida, the majority of which are county farm bureaus which provide services to over 140,000 members.

This bill provides for conversion of a limited agricultural association into a domestic not-for-profit corporation. Specifically, the bill establishes requirements for conversion, including certain information that must be filed with the Department of State to convert into a domestic corporation. The conversion does not affect any obligation or liability of the association.

Additionally, the bill creates a fee of \$35 for filing a certificate of conversion into a domestic corporation.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0