

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

HB 117 — Public Retirement Plans

by Rep. Ray and others (SB 388 by Senator Bean)

The bill provides that a consolidated government that has entered into an interlocal agreement to provide police protection services to an incorporated municipality is eligible to receive the premium taxes reported for the municipality under certain circumstances. The bill requires the consolidated government to notify the Department of Management Services when it enters into an interlocal agreement to provide police services to a municipality within its boundaries. It provides that the municipality may enact an ordinance to levy a premium tax as authorized in law, and the municipality may distribute any premium taxes reported for the municipality to the consolidated government as long as the interlocal agreement is in effect.

The Revenue Estimating Conference has estimated that this legislation will have an insignificant, negative fiscal impact on the state General Revenue Fund and a corresponding insignificant, positive fiscal impact on local government revenues by shifting these tax revenues from the state to the local governments.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 116-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

HB 513 — State Poet Laureate

by Rep. Raulerson and others (SB 290 by Senators Hukill, Brandes, and Detert)

The bill creates the position of State Poet Laureate within the Department of State and provides requirements for the selection, terms of service, and duties of the position. The bill assigns the nomination process for the State Poet Laureate to the Florida Council on Arts and Culture and expands the duties of the Council to include certain responsibilities related to the promotion of poetry.

The bill grants the Department of State rulemaking authority to implement the bill's provisions.

The bill also provides for the designation of past State Poets Laureate as State Poets Laureate Emeritus or Emerita.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 116-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

CS/HB 781 — Legal Notices

by Civil Justice Subcommittee; and Rep. Powell and others (CS/SB 834 by Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee; and Senator Latvala)

This bill provides that the public cannot be charged a fee or be required to register in order to view legal notices posted on a newspaper's website. In addition, this bill also provides that legal notices published on the statewide website maintained by the Florida Press Association must be searchable and posted on-line for certain periods of time. Finally, this bill repeals a provision clarifying that the printed version of a legal notice controls if there is an error in the electronic version.

Currently, legal notices published in a newspaper must also be posted on the newspaper's website. This bill provides that a newspaper's legal notices webpage must be clearly titled and that legal notices must be the predominant feature of the webpage. In addition, newspapers will not be permitted to charge a fee or require registration by members of the public in order to view or search legal notices.

Current law also provides that legal notices posted on a newspaper's website must also be posted on a statewide website maintained by the Florida Press Association. This bill provides that the statewide website must make legal notices searchable by case name and number and each legal notice must be on-line for 90 days. Legal notices posted on the statewide website after October 1, 2014, must be searchable, free to the public, and on-line for 18 months.

This bill repeals a section of the law which provided that the printed version of a legal notice controlled if there were mistakes in the electronic versions. The law provided that the requirements of legal notice were deemed met if the printed version of a legal notice was correct. Any mistakes which appeared in a legal notice posted on a newspaper's website or on the statewide website were considered harmless error.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 118-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

CS/CS/HB 811 — Foreign Investments

by Appropriations Committee; Government Operations Subcommittee; and Rep. Hager and others (CS/CS/CS/SB 948 by Appropriations Committee; Banking and Insurance Committee; Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee; and Senator Ring)

The bill modifies the Protecting Florida's Investments Act, which requires the State Board of Administration (SBA) to identify and divest assets in foreign companies doing business in Iran and Sudan, by providing that SBA investment in exchange-traded funds will not be subject to the divestiture requirements. The bill also makes terminology changes to reflect that South Sudan is now an independent nation.

The bill allows the SBA to invest up to 50 percent of any of its funds in foreign corporate securities and obligations, an increase from the current maximum of 35 percent.

The bill also provides that a domestic insurer with investments in a company included on the Iran and Sudan scrutinized company lists must report such investments yearly to the Office of Insurance Regulation.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 36-0; House 118-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

HB 953 — State Contracting

by Rep. Peters (SB 914 by Senator Latvala)

The bill requires state agencies to consider the prior relevant experience of a vendor when evaluating the responses to a request for proposal or an invitation to negotiate. Currently, state agencies may consider prior relevant experience but are not required by law to do so.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 119-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

CS/SB 1194 — Citizen Support and Direct-support Organizations

by Appropriations Committee; and Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee

The bill creates new reporting and transparency requirements for each Citizen Support Organization (CSO) and Direct Support Organization (DSO) that is created or authorized pursuant to law or executive order and created, approved, or administered by a state agency. The bill requires each CSO and DSO to report information related to its organization, mission, and finances to the agency it was created to support. A contract between an agency and a CSO or DSO must require the CSO or DSO to provide such information to the agency, and must require the agency to terminate the contract if the CSO or DSO fails to provide the information for two consecutive years. The bill requires each agency receiving such information from a CSO or DSO to make the information available on its website, and to provide a link to the CSO's or DSO's website if such a website exists.

The bill requires each agency to annually report to the Governor, the Legislature, and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability the information provided to the agency by the CSO or DSO, and to make a recommendation on whether to continue, terminate, or modify the agency's association with the CSO or DSO.

The bill provides that a law creating or authorizing the creation of a CSO or DSO must state that the creation or authorization is repealed on October 1 of the fifth year after enactment, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature. The bill directs the Legislature to review CSOs and DSOs in existence on the effective date of the bill by July 1, 2019.

The bill provides for the future repeal of certain sections of law authorizing CSOs and DSOs, unless those sections are reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature.

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

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 116-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

CS/CS/HB 1385 — Inspectors General

by Appropriations Committee; Government Operations Subcommittee; and Rep. Raulerson and others (CS/CS/SB 1328 by Appropriations Committee; Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee; and Senator Latvala)

The bill modifies how agency inspectors general are appointed, supervised, and removed.

The bill provides that upon the change or reelection of a Governor, the Governor must appoint, or may reappoint, the Chief Inspector General before adjournment sine die of the first regular session of the Legislature that convenes after the change or reelection of the Governor.

For state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Cabinet or the Governor and Cabinet, the agency head has the authority to appoint and dismiss the agency inspector general. For agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, the Chief Inspector General has the authority to appoint and dismiss, for cause, the agency inspector general.

The bill also provides that for state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor, agency inspectors general must provide final reports and responses to OPPAGA and Auditor General reports to the Chief Inspector General.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 37-1; House 114-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

SB 1678 — OGSR/Agency Personnel Information

by Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee

The bill continues the existing public records exemption for former and current agency employees' social security numbers. This bill amends the current public records exemption to allow an agency to disclose an employee's social security number under the following circumstances: as required by law or a court order; if another agency needs an employee's social security number in order to perform its duties; or if an employee consents to the release of his or her social security number.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect October 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 113-0

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

HB 5005 — Florida Retirement System

by Appropriations Committee and Rep. McKeel (SB 2506 by Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee)

The bill sets the employer-paid contribution rates for the Florida Retirement System (FRS) and the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy (HIS) program, effective July 1, 2014.

The employer-paid contribution for the HIS program is increased from 1.20 percent of the employer's payroll to 1.26 percent of the employer's payroll. These funds will be deposited into the Retiree Health Insurance Subsidy Trust Fund to pay benefits to eligible retirees.

The employer-paid contribution rates to pay the normal costs and amortization of the unfunded actuarial liability of the FRS are increased. These rates are based on the rates recommended in the "Blended Rate Study" associated with the 2013 Actuarial Valuation of the FRS. These funds will be deposited into the FRS Trust Fund to fund retirement benefits to members participating in the FRS.

The bill contains legislative findings that a proper and legitimate state purpose is served when public retirement systems, including health insurance subsidies, are administered and funded in a reasonable manner.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 97-19

Committee on Governmental Oversight And Accountability

HB 7073 — Information Technology Governance

by Appropriations Committee; and Rep. McKeel and others (CS/SB 928 by Appropriations Committee; and Governmental Oversight and Accountability Committee)

The bill establishes an enterprise information technology (IT) governance structure within the executive branch. Specifically the bill:

- Creates the Agency for State Technology (AST), administratively housed within the Department of Management Services (DMS), with an executive director who serves as the state's chief information officer, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.
- Defines the duties and responsibilities of the AST to include:
 - developing and implementing IT architecture standards,
 - establishing project management and oversight standards,
 - performing project oversight on agency IT projects of \$10 million or more,
 - providing operational management and oversight of the state data center,
 - identifying opportunities for standardization and consolidation of IT services that support common business functions,
 - recommending additional consolidations of agency data centers or computing facilities, and
 - performing project oversight on any cabinet agency IT project that has a total project cost of \$50 million or more and impacts another agency or agencies.
- Authorizes a type two transfer of all records, property, unexpended balances of appropriations, administrative authority, specified administrative rules, pending issues, and existing contracts of the Agency for Enterprise Information Technology to the AST.
- Creates the state data center, and authorizes a type two transfer of the Northwood and Southwood Shared Resource Centers from the DMS to the AST.
- Establishes the Technology Advisory Council within the AST for purposes of making recommendations to the executive director of the AST.
- Clarifies the IT security duties of the AST, individual agencies, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Cybercrime Office.
- Requires the AST to conduct a feasibility study and to provide recommendations managing state government data.
- Repeals sections of law relating to the AEIT, the NSRC and the SSRC; energy efficient standards for data centers; and statewide e-mail service.

For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, \$3,563,573 in recurring general revenue funds, \$1,095,005 in nonrecurring general revenue funds, and 25 full time equivalent positions with associated salary rate of 2,083,481 are appropriated to the AST.

For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, \$144,870 in recurring general revenue funds, \$7,546 in nonrecurring general revenue funds, and 2 full time equivalent positions with associated salary rate of 93,120 are appropriated to the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.
Vote: Senate 37-0; House 116-0