

Committee on Budget

HB 7207 — Trust Funds; Growth Management

by the Select Committee on Government Reorganization; and Rep. Aubuchon

This bill as filed amended statutes for various trust funds – terminating certain trust funds and providing for revenue sources for a newly created trust fund.

The conference report provides instead for various provisions relating to growth management:

- Makes concurrency for parks and recreation, schools, and transportation facilities optional for local governments.
- Applies and revises the expedited comprehensive plan amendment process statewide.
- Deletes the requirement that comprehensive plans be financially feasible.
- Deletes the twice a year limitation on comprehensive plan amendments.
- Revises the small scale amendment process.
- Specifies that population projections should be a floor for requisite development except for areas of critical state concern.
- Allows additional planning periods for specific parts of the comprehensive plan.
- Abolishes 9J-5 (DCA's growth management regulations and incorporates certain provisions into the bill).
- Removes many of the state specifications and requirements for optional elements in the comprehensive plan, but allows local governments to continue to include optional elements.
- Expands and revises the optional sector plan process.
- Reduces the requirements of the evaluation and appraisal process.
- Revises the rural land stewardship program.
- Restricts the state's ability to interpret joint planning agreements.
- Clarifies and broadens the window for permit extensions.
- Creates a 4-year development of regional impact permit extension.
- Removes industrial areas, hotels/motels, and theaters from the list of developments of regional impact.
- Creates an exemption from the DRI process for mining projects and allows those mines to enter into agreements with the Department of Transportation.
- Adds a new 2-year permit extension, but caps the maximum extension at 4 years.
- Prohibits local governments from having referenda for local comprehensive plan amendments.
- Encourages planning innovation technical assistance.
- Sunsets the Century Commission in two years.
- Clarifies requirements for adopting criteria to address compatibility of lands relating to military installations.
- Allows a certain plan amendment to be readopted by a local government without being resubmitted to the state land planning agency.
- Clarifies when a local government can reject a proposed change to a development of regional impact.

- Encourages adaptation strategies.
- Requires DOT to study the proportionate share calculation.
- Allows DCA to have procedural issues on their website.

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

Vote: Senate 34-5; House 87-31