

Agenda Order

Tab 2	SB 2 by Jones; Identical to H 06501 Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
Tab 3	SB 26 by McClain (CO-INTRODUCERS) Massullo; Similar to CS/H 06509 Relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta by the Department of Transportation
Tab 4	CS/SB 354 by CA, McClain; Similar to CS/H 00299 Blue Ribbon Projects 686098 A S RCS ATD, McClain Delete L.94 - 329: 02/12 04:43 PM
Tab 5	SB 1112 by Garcia; Identical to H 01287 Labor Pool Act
Tab 6	SB 1192 by Polsky (CO-INTRODUCERS) Arrington; Identical to H 01031 Customer Service Callback Queues
Tab 7	CS/SB 1220 by TR, Massullo; Compare to CS/H 01233 Transportation 343364 A S RCS ATD, Massullo Delete L.220 - 567: 02/12 04:43 PM
Tab 8	SB 1352 by Trumbull; Identical to H 00613 Motor Vehicles
Tab 9	CS/SB 1670 by TR, Osgood; Similar to H 01379 Specialty License Plates/Outsider License Plate

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA
**APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION,
TOURISM, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**
Senator DiCeglie, Chair
Senator Polsky, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Thursday, February 12, 2026

TIME: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

PLACE: *Toni Jennings Committee Room, 110 Senate Building*

MEMBERS: Senator DiCeglie, Chair; Senator Polsky, Vice Chair; Senators Arrington, Avila, Bernard, Bracy Davis, Grall, Leek, Martin, Mayfield, McClain, Smith, Truenow, and Wright

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
1	Review and Discussion of Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget Issues Relating to: Department of Commerce Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Department of Military Affairs Department of State Department of Transportation Division of Emergency Management		Not Considered
2	SB 2 Jones (Identical H 6501)	Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; Providing for the relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley; providing an appropriation to compensate the estate for Ms. Maudsley's death as a result of the alleged negligence of Trooper Daniel Cole and the Florida Highway Patrol, a division of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing a limitation on the payment of compensation and attorney fees, etc. SM JU 02/03/2026 Favorable ATD 02/12/2026 Favorable AP	Favorable Yea 13 Nays 0
3	SB 26 McClain (Similar CS/H 6509)	Relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta by the Department of Transportation; Providing for the relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta; providing an appropriation to compensate the estate for injuries and damages sustained by Mr. LaGatta as a result of the negligence of the Department of Transportation; providing a limitation on compensation and the payment of attorney fees, etc. SM JU 02/03/2026 Favorable ATD 02/12/2026 Favorable AP	Favorable Yea 13 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDAAppropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
Thursday, February 12, 2026, 2:30—4:00 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
4	CS/SB 354 Community Affairs / McClain (Similar CS/H 299)	Blue Ribbon Projects; Requiring that a development project meet certain requirements to qualify as a blue ribbon project; specifying maximum residential density and nonresidential intensity permitted within the development area of a blue ribbon project; requiring that a blue ribbon project have a blue ribbon plan; requiring that a project receive dollar-for-dollar credits from a local government under certain circumstances; specifying that a project may be located on land with any future land use designation or zoning designation, etc. CA 01/13/2026 Fav/CS ATD 02/12/2026 Fav/CS RC	Fav/CS Yea 8 Nays 4
5	SB 1112 Garcia (Identical H 1287)	Labor Pool Act; Prohibiting a labor pool from charging a certain fee to a third-party user if such user directly employs a laborer for work; requiring a labor pool to register annually with the Department of Commerce; revising the remedies, damages, and costs a court may award the prevailing party in certain actions, etc. CM 01/28/2026 Favorable ATD 02/12/2026 Favorable FP	Favorable Yea 13 Nays 0
6	SB 1192 Polsky (Identical H 1031)	Customer Service Callback Queues; Establishing a pilot program to require specified agencies to use a callback queue for returning certain calls; requiring calls to be returned in a specified manner; requiring pilot program participants to report specified information to the Legislature by a certain date, etc. GO 02/02/2026 Favorable ATD 02/12/2026 Favorable AP	Favorable Yea 13 Nays 0
7	CS/SB 1220 Transportation / Massullo (Compare CS/H 1233)	Transportation; Providing requirements for an infrastructure development and improvement component included in a port's strategic plan; requiring the Department of Transportation to coordinate with the Department of Commerce, specified ports, and the Federal Government for a certain purpose; authorizing certain rental trucks to elect a permanent registration period; revising duties of the Department of Transportation relating to airport systems in this state; providing that the department serves as the primary point of contact for statewide topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and certain cost sharing, etc. TR 02/03/2026 Fav/CS ATD 02/12/2026 Fav/CS AP	Fav/CS Yea 12 Nays 0

COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
Thursday, February 12, 2026, 2:30—4:00 p.m.

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
8	SB 1352 Trumbull (Identical H 613)	Motor Vehicles; Requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to establish and maintain a secure online license and registration portal for verifying, recording, and processing the seizure or confiscation of license plates; providing that a disabled veteran may retain a certain license plate designation upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the plate; prohibiting a person from manufacturing, selling, offering for sale, or affixing to any registration license plate certain covers, films, or overlays that obscure or alter the registration license plate in a specified manner, etc.	Favorable Yea 13 Nays 0
TR ATD FP	02/03/2026 Favorable 02/12/2026 Favorable	Specialty License Plates/Outsider License Plate; Directing the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to develop an Outsider license plate; providing for distribution and use of fees collected from the sale of the plate, etc.	Temporarily Postponed
TR ATD FP	01/27/2026 Fav/CS 02/12/2026 Temporarily Postponed		

Other Related Meeting Documents



THE FLORIDA SENATE

SPECIAL MASTER ON CLAIM BILLS

Location

409 The Capitol

Mailing Address

404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100
(850) 487-5229

DATE	COMM	ACTION
1/29/2026	SM	Favorable
2/3/2026	JU	Favorable
2/12/2026	ATD	Favorable
	AP	

January 29, 2026

The Honorable Ben Albritton
President, The Florida Senate
Suite 409, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Re: **SB 2** – Senator Jones
HB 6501 – Representative Harris
Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley by the Department of Highway
Safety and Motor Vehicles

SPECIAL MASTER'S FINAL REPORT

THIS IS AN UNCONTESTED CLAIM FOR \$1,750,000 PAYABLE FROM THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES. THIS AMOUNT IS THE UNPAID BALANCE OF A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ESTATE OF DANIELLE MAUDSLEY AND THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL AND TROOPER DANIEL COLE. THE SETTLEMENT RESOLVED A CIVIL ACTION ARISING FROM THE ALLEGED NEGLIGENT USE OF AN ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICE THAT CAUSED THE DEATH OF DANIELLE MAUDSLEY.

UPDATE TO PRIOR REPORT:

On October 13, 2015, Ms. Sandra Stovall, serving as Senate special master, held a *de novo* hearing on a previous version of this bill, SB 64 (2016). After the hearing, Ms. Stovall issued a report containing findings of fact and conclusions of law and found the requested amount of \$1,750,000 was

SPECIAL MASTER'S FINAL REPORT – SB 2

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reasonable. That report is attached as an addendum to this report.

Since that time, the claim bill has been reassigned to the undersigned to review records and determine whether any changes have occurred since the hearing that, if known at the hearing, might have significantly altered the findings or recommendation in the previous report.

According to information received, no such changes have occurred since the 2015 hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Kurt Schrader
Senate Special Master

cc: Secretary of the Senate



THE FLORIDA SENATE
SPECIAL MASTER ON CLAIM BILLS

Location
515 Knott Building
Mailing Address
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100
(850) 487-5198

DATE	COMM	ACTION
01/18/18	SM	Favorable
	JU	
	ATD	
	AP	

January 18, 2018

The Honorable Joe Negron
President, The Florida Senate
Suite 409, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Re: **SB 14** – Senator Gibson
HB 6519 – Representative Sean Shaw
Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley

SPECIAL MASTER'S FINAL REPORT

THIS IS AN UNCONTESTED EQUITABLE CLAIM FOR \$1,750,000 PAYABLE FROM THE GENERAL REVENUE FUND OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES, BASED ON A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE ESTATE OF DANIELLE MAUDSLEY AND THE FLORIDA HIGHWAY PATROL AND TROOPER DANIEL COLE, WHICH RESOLVED A CIVIL ACTION THAT AROSE FROM THE ALLEGED NEGLIGENT USE OF AN ELECTRONIC CONTROL DEVICE THAT CAUSED THE DEATH OF DANIELLE MAUDSLEY.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

On September 19, 2011, Trooper Daniel Cole of the Florida Highway Patrol (FHP) arrested 20 year old Danielle Maudsley for two counts of leaving the scene of a crash with property damage and two counts of driving with no valid driver's license. The charges are all second degree misdemeanors.

The first hit-and-run crash occurred at approximately 8:47 a.m. on September 19, 2011. Trooper Cole was dispatched to the scene and while responding, a second hit-and-run crash, which occurred at approximately 9:41 a.m., was reported with tag numbers, vehicle descriptions, and driver descriptions consistent in both crashes. Trooper Cole requested a *Be on*

SPECIAL MASTER'S FINAL REPORT – SB 14

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the Lookout (BOLO) for the suspect's vehicle. Both crashes occurred in Pinellas County.

A short time later, deputies from the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office (PCSO) located the suspect vehicle, which was damaged, at Ms. Maudsley's residence in Pinellas Park. Trooper Cole was notified and went to the Maudsley residence. Upon arrival Deputy Chad Earl (PCSO) informed Trooper Cole that Danielle Maudsley resisted his attempts to detain her, without violence, and he intended to charge her for that offense, and that she was already on probation for driving with no valid driver's license. After deputies informed Trooper Cole that Danielle Maudsley had made spontaneous statements to the deputies that she had been involved in the hit-and-run crashes, Trooper Cole arrested Ms. Maudsley.

Trooper Cole handcuffed Ms. Maudsley behind her back and transported her to the Pinellas Park FHP station at 7651 U.S.19 North to complete the investigative paperwork prior to taking her to the county jail.

Trooper Cole had activated the in-car video and audio system for the transport. The video shows that Danielle Maudsley is a slightly built woman and while fidgeting in the back of the patrol car removed one of her hands from the handcuffs. Upon arrival at the FHP station at approximately 11:04 a.m., and while exiting the patrol car, Ms. Maudsley passively informed Trooper Cole that her hand was free and she was unable to reinsert it into the handcuffs. Trooper Cole re-cuffed Ms. Maudsley behind her back and they entered the side door of the FHP station near the conference room.

Trooper Cole seated Ms. Maudsley in a chair in the conference room farthest from the door. Trooper Cole seated himself at the conference room table between Ms. Maudsley and the door to complete the investigative paperwork. At approximately 11:11 a.m. Ms. Maudsley advised Trooper Cole that she was thirsty. While escorting her to get a drink of water, she complained about the handcuffs and turned so that he could see that her wrist was caught in one of the handcuffs. Trooper Cole had her adjust her wrist so that it was not caught and he checked to be sure the handcuffs were still secure.

At approximately 11:41 a.m., Trooper Cole requested another FHP officer watch Ms. Maudsley so that he could use the

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restroom. According to the investigative report, Trooper Cole returned about one and a half minutes later and assumed sole control of Ms. Maudsley while he resumed the paperwork.

Throughout the period from initially entering the conference room, there was no indication of aggressive or uncooperative behavior on the part of Danielle Maudsley while in custody.

At approximately 11:45 a.m., while Trooper Cole was still engaged in the paperwork, Danielle Maudsley ran past him, out of the conference room, down the short hallway, and exited the side door in which she had entered. At that time, Danielle Maudsley was no longer handcuffed behind her back. According to Trooper Cole, he was unable to discern whether she was handcuffed at all.

Trooper Cole indicated that he never heard Ms. Maudsley get up, the jingle of a handcuff, or anything. He felt a presence move behind him and when he looked up, she was even with the doorway to the conference room.

The in-car video and audio in Trooper Cole's transport vehicle were still activated and recorded the ensuing events. Off camera, Trooper Cole is heard asking, "Where are you going?" and he whistled at her. The next sound, which is almost immediately, is the squeak of the push bar on the station's exit door. Investigative reports and the video support the conclusion that the sound was from Danielle Maudsley pushing the bar to exit the building.

According to the investigative report, when Trooper Cole got to the exit door, it was swinging back in his direction. He pushed the door open with his left hand as he pulled his electronic control device (Taser) from the holster on his belt with his right hand. He weighed almost three times Danielle's weight, and according to Trooper Cole believed that [tackling] going to the ground with Danielle would certainly have resulted in her being injured.

The audio/video recording shows¹ Ms. Maudsley in full stride with her body posture leaning forward, within a distance of approximately one to two feet from Trooper Cole. Trooper Cole has the Taser in his right hand drawn and horizontal but

¹ At time stamp 11:45:49 a.m. on the in-car video recording.

his right elbow is still at his side. His posture is more erect. The left side of his body is not visible in the frame. Both are on the sidewalk under the eave of the building's roof.

According to the audio/video recording and still photographs from the recording, one second later, at 11:45:50 a.m., Trooper Cole's right hand with the Taser is outstretched approximately two feet from Ms. Maudsley's back. Both are still on the sidewalk beside the side door. The next still photograph with the same time stamp shows Ms. Maudsley stepping off the sidewalk in full stride, her back still to Trooper Cole, with her body posture indicating that she had received a Taser discharge into her back. She also released an audible squeal at this time. Trooper Cole had not warned the fleeing Maudsley that he was going to discharge the Taser. The distance between Trooper Cole and Ms. Maudsley had increased to approximately three to four feet by this point; however, the front of the Taser was approximately two feet away at the point of discharge.

At 11:45:51 a.m., Ms. Maudsley's body is twisting toward Trooper Cole in the parking lot. Still clearly handcuffed but in the front of her body, she falls backwards, striking the back of her head on the pavement of the parking lot.² She is whimpering and sits up. Trooper Cole instructs her to "lay down" several times, which she does. Other FHP troopers come out of the building to assist. Ms. Maudsley, while still whimpering and crying tries to sit up again and at 11:47:02 complains that she cannot not get up. This interchange continues until approximately 11:48 a.m., when she becomes quiet and still. Emergency Medical Services arrived at approximately 11:51 a.m., and transported Ms. Maudsley to Bayfront Medical Center.

At approximately 5:00 p.m., the physician attending to Ms. Maudsley advised that her condition was critical and her prognosis was not good due to the lack of activity in her brain. In addition Maudsley had tested positive for oxycodone, and cocaine in her system. Danielle Maudsley never regained consciousness, was diagnosed with a traumatic brain injury, remained in a constant vegetative state on life-support, and passed away on September 15, 2013.

² The FDLE Investigative Report of the incident reports a measurement between the approximate point on the concrete pad where Trooper Cole fired his Taser at Daniele Maudsley to the point on the pavement/asphalt where Ms. Maudsley fell and fractured her skull at 15.217 feet.

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The FHP Supervisor's Use of Control Report, signed in October, 2011, by the district shift commander, district commander, and troop commander concluded that based on the totality of the circumstances, the force used exceeded the minimum amount of force needed to effectuate the apprehension of Danielle Maudsley. Within that report, the supervising investigator noted that Trooper Cole was in no apparent danger and because of his closeness to the suspect, the time necessary to warn Ms. Maudsley would not have prevented him from being able to use the ECD if she continued to flee. He further noted that the ECD cartridges issued by the agency have a maximum range of 25 feet.

On or about September 20, 2011, the FHP requested the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) investigate this incident as a Use of Force incident. On November 7, 2011, the FDLE concluded that Trooper Cole was in the legal performance of his official law enforcement duties and acted within the scope of his assignment. The investigation determined that the use of force by Trooper Cole was within the allowable parameters outlined in Chapter 776, Florida Statutes.

The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) Office of Inspector General's administrative investigation likewise determined that Trooper Cole acted in accordance with Florida law and FHP policy.

Florida Statutes, FHP policies and procedures, and officer/trooper training programs provide structure, parameters, and guidance for the use of force to prevent escape, including the use of electronic control devices (ECD). Although not a complete recitation of these documents, the following considerations demonstrate the complexity of the issues presented in the facts of this claim bill:

- A law enforcement officer or other person who has an arrested person in his or her custody is justified in the use of any force which he or she reasonably believes to be necessary to prevent the escape of the arrested person from custody. Section 776.07, F.S.
- Members of the FHP shall in every instance seek to employ the minimum amount of control required to successfully overcome physical resistance, prevent escapes, and effect arrests. Members' actions must be

objectively reasonable in light of the facts and circumstances confronting them, without regard to their underlying intent or motivation. FHP Procedures 10.01.07 and Policy 10.05.02 specific to ECD.

- In accordance with s. 943.1717(1), F.S., a member's decision to deploy the ECD shall involve an arrest or custodial situation during which the person who is the subject of the arrest or custody escalates resistance to the member from passive physical resistance to active physical resistance, and the person (a) has the apparent ability to physically threaten the member or others; or, (b) is preparing or attempting to flee or escape. (Note: Fleeing cannot be the sole reason for deployment of the ECD.) FHP Policy Manual 10.05.04 C.
- There may be incidents in which the use of an ECD conflicts with [a list of 6 situations a member shall not use the device unless exigent circumstances exist, including use on a handcuffed prisoner]. In those cases, the use of the ECD must be based on justifiable facts and are subject to "Use of Control" supervisory review. FHP Policy Manual specific to ECD – Deployment 10.05.04 C 1.
- As in all uses of control, certain individuals may be more susceptible to injury. Members should be aware of the greater potential for injury when using an ECD against ... persons of small build regardless of age. FHP Policy Manual specific to ECD – Deployment 10.05.04 C 2.
- When reasonable, members preparing to fire the device should announce a verbal warning such as "Stop Resisting, Taser!, Taser!, Taser!" to warn the violator ... FHP Policy Manual specific to ECD – Deployment 10.05.04 C 4.

On November 2, 2012, Danielle Maudsley was determined to be incapacitated, and Julie Goddard was appointed her Guardian by the Circuit Court of the Ninth District in and for Orange County. Ms. Maudsley was residing in a nursing facility in Orange County at the time. When Ms. Maudsley died, Ms. Goddard became the Personal Representative of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley.

Litigation originated on May 23, 2013, in state court against Trooper Cole and the FHP in the Sixth Circuit of Pinellas County while Ms. Maudsley was still alive. The complaint alleged that Trooper Cole acted in a manner exhibiting wanton

and willful disregard of human rights and safety, by among other ways:

- Failing to use his Taser in a proper, safe and appropriate manner;
- Deploying his Taser on a handcuffed and running Danielle Maudsley when he knew or should have known that the use of the Taser under the circumstances would likely result in severe injuries to her;
- Failing to use other available, safer means to stop Danielle Maudsley, such as reaching out with his hands and grabbing her;
- Failing to provide a verbal warning in accordance with the policies and procedures set forth by the Florida Highway Patrol; and
- Failing to follow other accepted policies and procedures set forth by the FHP.

The complaint also alleged that the FHP was negligent in its training and instruction of Trooper Cole in the proper, safe, and appropriate use of his Taser.

On July 7, 2014, after Danielle Maudsley's death, an amended complaint was filed that also alleged excessive force and Fourth Amendment constitutional violation claims. The case was removed to the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida.

On August 10, 2015, the parties settled all claims for \$1,950,000 to avoid the cost of protracted and expensive litigation. The settlement agreement refers to the allegations of negligence against the FHP and Trooper Cole that are contained in the Complaint. While maintaining no admission of liability or responsibility, the FHP and Trooper Cole acknowledge that if this case went to trial, a federal jury could reasonably award damages to the Plaintiff in the amount of \$1,950,000 based on the facts of the case.

The limit of the State's sovereign immunity in the amount of \$200,000 has been paid by the Division of Risk Management pursuant to s. 768.28, F.S. The remaining \$1,750,000 is the subject of the claim bill and will be paid from General Revenue appropriated to the DHSMV if the claim bill becomes law. The FHP and Trooper Cole have agreed not to oppose a claim bill in this amount.

SPECIAL MASTER'S FINAL REPORT – SB 14

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In the settlement agreement, the Plaintiff agreed to voluntarily dismiss the lawsuit, with prejudice, upon court approval. The United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida issued a Final Judgment of Dismissal with Prejudice on March 1, 2016.

The net proceeds to the estate from this claim bill for \$1,750,000, after medical liens and attorney fees is expected to be approximately \$1,262,249.80. The probate court may award estate and personal representative fees, estimated at approximately \$114,030, in accordance with Florida law from all net proceeds to the estate.

Counsel for the Plaintiff represents it is his understanding from discussion with the attorney for the personal representative of the estate, that the proposed distribution of any claim bill will be made in accordance with Florida Statute, in that both parents will receive damages equally, [after liens, costs, and expenses have been paid]. However, Cheryl Maudsley, mother and primary caregiver of Danielle, both during her life and while she was hospitalized, will be petitioning the probate court for a greater apportionment of those damages. Cheryl Maudsley currently resides in Michigan. Danielle Maudsley's father is currently incarcerated, with the current release date of December 9, 2022. According to Counsel, Cheryl Maudsley also intends to establish a trust for her 10 year old daughter, Danielle's sister, with a majority of her portion of the funds.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

A common law duty of care is owed to a person in custody. Kaiser v. Kolb, 543 So. 2d 732 (Fla 1989) Accordingly, Trooper Cole had a duty to reasonably carry out his operational responsibilities of maintaining custody of Danielle Maudsley and apprehending her when she attempted to flee. Under the doctrine of respondeat superior, the FHP, a Division of the DHSMV, is vicariously liable for the negligent acts of its employees, when such acts are within the course and scope of employment. See Mallory v. O'Neil, 69 So.2d 313 (Fla.1954), and s. 768.28, F.S.

Whether Trooper Cole implemented his responsibilities negligently or in accordance with statutory and departmental policy was an appropriate question for the jury. This hearing officer concludes that Trooper Cole negligently performed his duties in the firing of his Taser at the point in time that he discharged it, without first issuing a warning to allow her the

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opportunity to stop, without ascertaining to the best of his ability whether Ms. Maudsley was still handcuffed and to reassess the situation in that light, and without at least attempting to stop or overtake her in a manner that did not include a full body tackle. He had a 25 foot discharge range within which these actions could have been employed prior to a Taser discharge. Discharging the Taser was the proximate cause of Danielle Maudsley injuries and subsequent demise. The parties agreed to execute the settlement agreement to resolve this question as well as all allegations in the Amended Complaint. The settlement agreement is reasonable given the unfortunate outcome of this incident.

ATTORNEYS FEES:

Section 768.28(8), F.S., states that no attorney may charge, demand, receive, or collect for services rendered, fees in excess of 25 percent of any judgment or settlement. Claimant's counsel, Ralph M. Guito, III, Esq., has submitted an affidavit that the attorney fees, including lobbying fees, will not exceed 25 percent of the total amount awarded under the claim bill.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Based upon the foregoing, I recommend that SB 14 be reported FAVORABLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra R. Stovall
Senate Special Master

cc: Secretary of the Senate

By Senator Jones

34-00026-26

20262

A bill to be entitled

An act for the relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley; providing an appropriation to compensate the estate for Ms. Maudsley's death as a result of the alleged negligence of Trooper Daniel Cole and the Florida Highway Patrol, a division of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing a limitation on the payment of compensation and attorney fees; providing an effective date.

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2011, 20-year-old Danielle Maudsley was arrested for nonviolent traffic offenses and was subsequently taken to the Florida Highway Patrol substation in Pinellas Park for processing, and

WHEREAS, during the processing, Ms. Maudsley, who was still handcuffed, attempted to flee the substation through a side door, and

WHEREAS, as Ms. Maudsley exited the substation, Trooper Daniel Cole of the Florida Highway Patrol followed her outside, and

WHEREAS, Trooper Cole removed his electronic control device and fired it directly into Ms. Maudsley's back, causing her to collapse and fall to the parking lot pavement with great physical force and effect, and

WHEREAS, as a result of these events, Ms. Maudsley suffered extensive traumatic brain injury and remained in a constant vegetative state until her death on September 15, 2013, and

WHEREAS, in May 2015, a settlement agreement was entered into between Julie Goddard, as personal representative of the

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

34-00026-26

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Estate of Danielle Maudsley, and the Florida Highway Patrol and Trooper Cole to settle all claims arising out of Ms. Maudsley's death, and

WHEREAS, the Florida Highway Patrol and Trooper Cole acknowledged that, if the case had gone to trial in the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, a jury could reasonably have awarded damages in the amount of \$1.95 million to the Estate of Danielle Maudsley, and

WHEREAS, the settlement agreement required the Division of Risk Management of the Department of Financial Services to pay \$200,000 to the Estate of Danielle Maudsley in accordance with the statutory limits of liability set forth in s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, and

WHEREAS, Ms. Goddard, as personal representative of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley, seeks satisfaction of the remaining balance of the settlement agreement, which is \$1.75 million, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act are found and declared to be true.

Section 2. The sum of \$1.75 million is appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for the relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley for damages sustained as a result of the injuries to Danielle Maudsley and her subsequent death.

Section 3. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to draw a warrant payable to the Estate of Danielle Maudsley in the sum

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

34-00026-26

20262__

59 of \$1.75 million, minus amounts required to satisfy outstanding
60 Medicaid liens relating to the medical expenses and care of
61 Danielle Maudsley, upon funds of the Department of Highway
62 Safety and Motor Vehicles in the State Treasury and to pay the
63 same out of such funds.

64 Section 4. The amount paid by the Division of Risk
65 Management of the Department of Financial Services in accordance
66 with the statutory limits of liability set forth in s. 768.28,
67 Florida Statutes, and the amount awarded under this act are
68 intended to provide the sole compensation for all present and
69 future claims arising out of the factual situation described in
70 this act which resulted in the death of Danielle Maudsley. The
71 total amount paid for attorney fees relating to this claim may
72 not exceed 25 percent of the amount awarded under this act.

73 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Nick DiCeglie, Chair
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic
Development

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: February 4, 2026

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #2**, relating to Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Shev" or "Shevrin".

Senator Shevrin D. "Shev" Jones
Florida Senate, District 34

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 2

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Jones

Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Subject: Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: SB 2

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
RE=Replaced by Engrossed Amendment
RS=Replaced by Substitute Amendment

TP=Temporarily Postponed
VA=Vote After Roll Call
VC=Vote Change After Roll Call

WD=Withdrawn
OO=Out of Order
AV=Abstain from Voting

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 2

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Jones

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Relief of the Estate of Danielle Maudsley by the
Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Place: 110 Senate Building
Bill #: SB 2

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
RE=Replaced by Engrossed Amendment
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THE FLORIDA SENATE
SPECIAL MASTER ON CLAIM BILLS

Location

409 The Capitol

Mailing Address

404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100
(850) 487-52229

DATE	COMM	ACTION
1/29/26	SM	Favorable
2/3/26	JU	Favorable
2/12/26	ATD	Favorable
	AP	

January 29, 2026

The Honorable Ben Albritton
President, The Florida Senate
Suite 409, The Capitol
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

Re: **SB 26** – Senator McClain and Senator Massullo
HB 6509 – Representative Grow
Relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta by the Department
of Transportation

SPECIAL MASTER'S FINAL REPORT

THIS IS AN UNCONTESTED CLAIM FOR STATE FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2.2 MILLION, PAYABLE BY THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BASED ON A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN MARK LAGATTA AND THE D.O.T. THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT RESOLVED A CIVIL ACTION THAT AROSE FROM THE ALLEGED NEGLIGENCE OF EMPLOYEES OF D.O.T. THAT CAUSED INJURY TO MARK LAGATTA AND HIS DAUGHTER FAITH LAGATTA. MR. LAGATTA RECENTLY PASSED AWAY APPARENTLY DUE TO NATURAL CAUSES, AND HIS ESTATE OWNS THE RIGHT TO RECOVERY.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

General Overview of the Accident

On Monday, July 27, 2020, Mark LaGatta, a 56 year old resident of Lecanto (Citrus County), Florida, went on a motorcycle ride with his 18 year old daughter Faith LaGatta as passenger. He was lawfully operating a 2010 Harley Davidson motorcycle. They travelled from Lecanto to Cedar Key for a seafood lunch on the water on what they described as a Daddy-Daughter Lunch Date. It was a perfect Florida day

for a Florida resident to become a Florida tourist with a trip to the coast on a bright and sunny day.

Prior to the accident, Mr. LaGatta was a physically active father of five children and husband to his wife who is the mother of their children. He was honorably discharged from the United States Army and had been an Army contractor in the Middle East after his discharge. He enjoyed time with his wife and children, fixing his home, and riding his motorcycle. In his early adulthood in New York state, he was arrested three times for DUI. He has not had any brushes with the law in his many years as a citizen of Florida.¹ Mr. LaGatta has an unremarkable Florida driving history and had a motorcycle endorsement on his driver's license.²

On the day of the accident the Florida Department of Transportation was undertaking repairs to the westbound lane of State Road 24. SR 24 runs from Cedar Key in the west to Waldo in the east, travelling through Rosewood, Archer and Gainesville. In a rural area approximately 0.2 miles east of the intersection with SW 95th Avenue, Cedar Key (and approximately 0.4 miles east of the Rosewood memorial marker), a small sinkhole had opened in the westbound lane of the roadway. A DOT-owned tractor with a box blade attached on the rear, operated by a DOT employee, was being used to make temporary repairs to the roadway. The westbound lane was cordoned off with cones, and flagmen were stationed at either end of the open travel lane with radio communication to manage the one-lane traffic using the eastbound lane. Contrary to normal procedure, there was no spotter being used to assist the tractor driver in operating the tractor. Also, DOT service trucks were parked near the sinkhole and in a manner that partially blocked the tractor driver's view of vehicles that were in the travel lane. The tractor driver testified that the design of the cab caused blind spots that interfered with his views during backing up maneuvers. The highway at the location of the accident is two lane, relatively straight and flat, with a wide shoulder that tapers off from the road, rural and lined with mature pine trees, and has a normal speed limit of 60 mph.

¹ Given the history of DUIs, the Special Master felt compelled to request the blood test results from the emergency room medical records. The test result for alcohol was 0, showing that Mr. LaGatta was not under the influence of alcohol at the time of the accident.

² FHSMD driver record of Mark LaGatta, dated September 26, 2023.

Leaving Cedar Key, around 2:15 p.m., Mr. LaGatta and his daughter Faith were travelling eastbound when Mr. LaGatta slowed as he approached the construction zone. As directed by the flagman, he followed another vehicle into the construction zone. The tractor operator saw the other vehicle pass and proceeded to back into the eastbound travel lane, assuming that the vehicle was the only one sent through by the flagmen and thus not seeing the motorcycle. A nearby witness foresaw the imminent collision and immediately honked his horn, but to no avail. The witness testified that Mr. LaGatta appeared to apply brakes and attempted to steer away from the box blade, although pictures from the scene do not show skid marks. There was no evidence as to whether the construction zone had a special speed limit. The witness estimated the motorcycle was travelling at 30 miles per hour when the tractor with box blade entered the travel lane, which would appear to be a safe and appropriate speed for the conditions.

The motorcycle struck the box blade, causing Mr. LaGatta and his daughter to be thrown from the motorcycle. Both were injured, the more serious injuries being suffered by Mr. LaGatta.

The DOT employee at fault in the accident was issued a citation. The traffic court found him guilty and assessed a \$500 fine with 3 months driver license suspension and a requirement to attend the Advanced Defensive Driving School.³

Mr. LaGatta's Injuries and Immediate Care

Mr. LaGatta was not wearing a helmet but fortunately did not suffer a head injury that required treatment. Mr. LaGatta was taken by ambulance from the accident site to Shands Hospital in Gainesville, approximately 45 miles from the accident scene. He does not recall the ride, but medical records show that he was administered multiple doses of strong pain medications during the lengthy ride. Upon arrival at Shands it was noted that he had left leg open fractures⁴ of the tibia and fibula⁵, arterial bleeding at the injury site of the left leg, closed fractures of the right tibia and fibula, multiple facial

³ Levy County Clerk of Court records of Russell Dunn.

⁴ An "open" fracture refers to a severe fracture where the skin is cut or otherwise open, exposing the bone.

⁵ The tibia and fibula are the two long bones of the lower leg, the tibia being the larger of the two and the one that bears most of the body's weight. Breaking both is commonly referred to as a "tib-fib fracture," and is an unfortunately common result of motorcycle collisions.

lacerations, and a transoral laceration of the mandibular fold. He was awake and alert. The facial lacerations were treated in the emergency room and the right leg fractures were set. The left leg injuries, however, would require significantly more medical attention.

In the emergency room, Mr. LaGatta required immediate orthopedic and vascular surgery including 4 compartment fasciotomies and external fixation. He was admitted to the intensive care unit for management of his pain, fractures and severe rhabdomyolysis requiring CVVH therapy.⁶ He was intubated and placed in an induced coma. Over the next five days the lower leg injuries required multiple debridements that were unsuccessful in saving the leg from necrosis, and on August 2, 2020 (five days after the accident) the left leg was amputated at the mid-femur. The next day, another surgery was performed for further debridement of the left leg stump, pinning of the right tibia, and a tracheostomy to replace the intubation.

By August 15 (18 days post-accident), Mr. LaGatta was off the ventilator, his tracheostomy had been removed, his renal function was normal, and he was eating a normal diet. He transitioned in stable condition from the ICU to a regular hospital room. The next day he was discharged from Shands and transferred to a rehabilitation facility.

Faith LaGatta

Mr. LaGatta's daughter Faith was 18 years old on the date of the accident. She was wearing a helmet. She suffered unspecified serious injuries in the accident, but her injuries appear far less serious than those of her father. Her claims have been settled in full within the sovereign immunity limits.

Follow up Medical Care

Mr. LaGatta had follow-up care for his injuries. Significantly, he has received post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) care from the Veteran's Administration (VA). He was fitted for a basic prosthetic leg, which he considered unusable. He paid out-of-pocket for an advanced prosthetic leg which allowed him to walk short distances.

⁶ Rhabdomyolysis is kidney failure, which can be caused by severe trauma to other parts of the body. CVVH therapy is the temporary use of a mechanical external machine that simulates the functions of the kidneys.

Mr. LaGatta anticipated continuing PTSD treatment through the VA.

Mr. LaGatta lost numerous teeth because of the accident. He could not afford dental treatment and had not sought an estimate of the cost or feasibility of dental work. Had this claim bill passed during his lifetime it seems likely that he would have pursued extensive dental work.

The claimant furnished an economic report that he would have relied on had the case gone to a jury. The report estimated lifetime medical expenses related to the accident for Mr. LaGatta would be in the range of \$4.4 million to \$5.3 million.⁷ However, this estimate assumed that the claimant would utilize several medical procedures and therapies that were not actually being pursued and did not appear to be planned in the future. For instance, the plan proposed a dorsal column stimulator for pain relief (as much as \$158,179), a procedure that was not done. The plan contemplated lifetime costs for a prosthetic leg at between \$2.2 million and \$2.8 million, yet Mr. LaGatta bought his prosthesis for \$40,000. The plan proposed a lifetime of home health aides at a cost of \$1.8 million to \$1.9 million, no home health aides were employed. Mr. LaGatta died August 14, 2024, of natural causes at the age of 60. The evidence is sparse, but the Special Master estimates that unpaid medical expenses related to the immediate aftermath of the accident plus those incurred afterwards through his lifetime, and not covered by Medicaid or the VA, are perhaps \$200,000.

Mr. LaGatta's Employment and Lost Wages

At the time of the accident, Mr. LaGatta earned approximately \$35,000 annually as a maintenance engineer at a local golf course. He previously worked in maintenance at a hotel. These maintenance jobs required extensive physical exertion encompassing mobility, lifting and climbing. He maintained that due to the left leg amputation together with continued right leg pain and instability he was unable to work as a maintenance engineer. He further contended that due to age and injuries he was unable to work in or train for a sedentary career.

⁷ Kirby, *Analysis of Economic Damages*, RE: Mark LaGatta, page 2.

Mr. LaGatta had been evaluated by an expert in rehabilitative care who had assigned a 37% whole body permanent impairment rating.⁸

Given the impairment rating, his history of active physical labor, his age, his overall health, and the continuing effects of his injuries, it is reasonable to find that Mr. LaGatta has suffered a total loss of income, which loss cannot be reasonably mitigated. Thus, a jury may have awarded 11 years of lost wages totaling approximately \$385,000.⁹ His widow should have benefited from that lost income, and the loss has likely negatively impacted her future federal benefits as a surviving spouse. It appears equitable to award this lost income despite Mr. LaGatta's early demise.

Collateral Sources

Mr. LaGatta had the minimum personal injury protection (PIP) coverage (\$10,000), and he received \$25,000 in uninsured motorist coverage from his own policy. Medicaid paid \$166,604.23 for medical bills related to the accident.¹⁰ The VA provided some care without charge. While technically not a collateral source, Mr. LaGatta has already received \$120,000 from the State DOT in partial satisfaction of this claim.

Noneconomic Damages

Mr. LaGatta suffered significant noneconomic damages in the form of pain and suffering damages. He was likely to continue to suffer the rest of his life, the missing leg a painful reminder of an accident he should never have had to suffer. In addition to his actual pain, he continued to blame himself for the injuries to his daughter Faith, even though there is no apparent legal or moral fault on him and the DOT appears to be 100 percent at fault in the collision.

No amount of money can truly compensate an accident victim for his or her pain and suffering, but money is the only tangible thing that can be awarded to an accident victim. As this is a settlement without the benefit of a jury trial, and because there is no formula or fixed criteria for an award, we don't know how

⁸ Lichtblau, *Comprehensive Rehabilitation Evaluation of Mark LaGatta*, page 54.

⁹ He was 56 at the time of the accident, and full retirement age for Social Security purposes for a person of his age at the time of the Special Master hearing, before his passing, is 67. In a trial, the plaintiff can argue for anticipated future inflationary increases in salaries, and the defense can argue that a judgment is paid today and that investment earnings should be considered. Given that the parties settled and did not present evidence in either regard, the Special Master considered this a "wash" and utilized a straight-line calculation of lost wages.

¹⁰ The charged amount was \$770,354.04.

much a jury might have been awarded had this matter gone to trial.

Litigation History and Settlement

Litigation History

The underlying case was filed on April 13, 2021, as a civil action in Levy County. The plaintiffs were Mark LaGatta, the claimant now being his estate, his wife Margaret LaGatta, and his daughter Faith LaGatta.

The plaintiff alleged that DOT was negligent in the operation of a tractor with box blade attachment, and that such negligence resulted in permanent injuries to Mr. LaGatta, permanent injuries to Faith LaGatta, and a loss of consortium claim by Margaret LaGatta. The defendant DOT denied all allegations of negligence.

Settlement

The parties entered into a settlement agreement resolving all claims that had been or could have been raised by claimants. The agreement paid Faith LaGatta the sum of \$150,000, and paid Margaret LaGatta the sum of \$30,000, both in full payment of their claim. The agreement also paid the remaining \$120,000 of the immunity limit to Mark LaGatta in partial payment of the settlement. From the \$120,000, there was a partial payment of the Medicaid lien as required by the applicable statutes, reducing the Medicaid lien by \$32,846.47.¹¹

The total settlement between the DOT and Mr. LaGatta is for \$2.32 million, \$120,000 of which was paid upon execution of the settlement. DOT has agreed to support a claim bill payable to the Estate of Mark LaGatta for the additional sum of \$2.2 million.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

A *de novo* hearing was held on October 30, 2023. The Legislature is not bound by settlements or jury verdicts when considering a claim bill, the passage of which is an act of legislative grace.

Section 768.28, of the Florida Statutes, waives the state's sovereign immunity for tort liability up to \$200,000 per person and \$300,000 for all claims or judgments arising out of the

¹¹ The current outstanding balance is \$133,757.76.

same incident. Sums exceeding these amounts are payable by the State and its agencies or subdivisions only by further act of the Legislature.

Agency Liability

There are three main types of agency liability in which a principal is responsible for the tortious conduct of its agent: *respondeat superior*, actual authority, and apparent authority.

Respondeat Superior

Under the doctrine of *respondeat superior*, an employer is liable for acts of employees performed within the course of their employment.¹²

In this case, the tractor driver and the employees on site were all employees of DOT. The flagmen were not DOT employees but were under the direction and control of DOT.¹³ The undersigned finds that all individuals liable for this accident and injuries fall under the concept of *respondeat superior*. The DOT is legally liable for the negligent acts of its employees and agents performed within the course of their employment.

Because *respondeat superior* applies, there is no cause to examine actual authority or apparent authority.

Negligence

There are four elements to a negligence claim: (1) duty—where the defendant has a legal obligation to protect others against unreasonable risks; (2) breach—which occurs when the defendant has failed to conform to the required standard of conduct; (3) causation—where the defendant's conduct is foreseeably and substantially the cause of the resulting damages; and (4) damages—actual harm.¹⁴

Duty

An operator of any vehicle generally has a duty to operate the vehicle safely and in a manner that is not harmful to other vehicles, pedestrians, or property.

¹² *Dieas v. Assoc. Loan Co.*, 99 So.2d 279, 280-281 (Fla. 1957); *Stinson v. Prevatt*, 94 So. 656, 657 (Fla. 1922).

¹³ The flagmen were state prisoners assigned to DOT. If asked to assign liability to them, the Special Master would find that the flagmen acted appropriately and should not be assigned any liability. It is unclear why DOT did not ask for a third inmate to act as a spotter for the tractor driver. A spotter is common in the construction industry and it was negligent not to have one. If there had been a spotter it is far less likely that this accident would have occurred.

¹⁴ *Williams v. Davis*, 974 So.2d 1052, at 1056–57 (Fla. 2007).

Breach

The DOT breached its duty by driving a tractor directly in front of a vehicle that was lawfully and safely operating on the highway. Mr. LaGatta had the right-of-way. The DOT also breached its duty by not assigning a spotter, parking large vehicles that partially blocked the views of the tractor operator, and not providing a radio to the tractor driver so that he could listen to the flagmen.

Causation

The breaches directly caused the accident.

Damages

Through the provision of medical records and supporting evidence, the claimant has established that he suffered significant and permanent injuries. A jury that would have heard this case is likely to have resulted in an award of significant damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future lost income, and past and future noneconomic (pain and suffering) damages.

Note that the settlement appears to have contemplated that Mr. LaGatta would live approximately twenty years longer than he did. A considerable amount of the settlement amount was apparently intended as compensation for anticipated future medical expenses that now are not needed. This would not be considered post-trial in a private action but is an equitable factor that the Legislature may consider in determining an equitable amount to award.

Comparative Fault

The damages award to a plaintiff in a personal injury action may be reduced if the finder of fact determines that the plaintiff was partially liable for his or her own injuries.

Conclusion

DOT was clearly negligent in several ways that led to the tragic outcome of this accident. The tractor driver was negligent in backing up into the travel lane without ensuring that the lane was clear, which liability is legally imposed upon DOT. DOT was also negligent in improperly training and supervising the tractor driver, in not assigning one of the employees on site to act as a spotter, in not giving the tractor driver a radio to listen to the flagmen, and in parking support vehicles in a manner that partially obscured the tractor operator's view of the travel lane. All the while, Mr. LaGatta

was driving in a reasonable manner and at a safe speed for conditions. It is reasonable and likely that a jury would find 100 percent of fault attributable to DOT and no comparative fault on the part of Mr. LaGatta. The special master therefore recommends a finding that Mr. LaGatta did not contribute to his injuries, and thus recommends a finding that DOT is legally 100 percent at fault in this accident.

As to the appropriate measure of compensation, the Legislature may decide whether the claim bill should accept the settlement with DOT or should equitably reduce the claim amount to take into consideration Mr. LaGatta's untimely death. The amount paid by this claim bill will be reduced before payment to the family by attorney's fees and the existing Medicaid lien.¹⁵

ATTORNEY FEES:

Language in the bill states that attorney fees may not exceed 25 percent of the amount awarded. Correspondence from the attorney for the claimant confirms that the attorney will comply with this limit should the claim bill be enacted.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommended Amendments

No technical amendments are recommended.

Recommendation on the Merits

Based upon the arguments and documents provided before, during, and after the special master hearing, I find that the claimant met the burden of proving that the State of Florida (Florida Department of Transportation) was negligent, resulting in injuries to Mark LaGatta. The equitable right to the claim passed to the estate. I recommend that Senate Bill 78 (2025) be reported FAVORABLY as amended in the discretion of the Legislature.

Respectfully submitted,

Nathan L. Bond
Senate Special Master

cc: Senator McClain
Tracey Cantella, Secretary of the Senate

¹⁵ Attorney fees are 25% of the award. The outstanding Medicaid lien is \$133,757.76.

Counsel of Record

By Senator McClain

9-00081-26

202626

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act for the relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta;
 3 providing an appropriation to compensate the estate
 4 for injuries and damages sustained by Mr. LaGatta as a
 5 result of the negligence of the Department of
 6 Transportation; providing a limitation on compensation
 7 and the payment of attorney fees; providing an
 8 effective date.

10 WHEREAS, on July 27, 2020, Mark LaGatta and his daughter,
 11 Faith LaGatta, were lawfully riding on Mr. LaGatta's motorcycle
 12 and traveling eastbound on State Road 24 near the intersection
 13 with SW 95th Avenue in Cedar Key in Levy County, and

14 WHEREAS, Mr. LaGatta, 57 years old at the time, was
 15 operating the motorcycle, and Faith LaGatta was a passenger, and

16 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation was in the
 17 process of roadwork on State Road 24 to repair sinkhole damage,
 18 and

19 WHEREAS, the department created a work zone, marking the
 20 closed westbound lane with cones, leaving only the eastbound
 21 lane open for travel, and

22 WHEREAS, the department's work zone had flaggers present to
 23 direct the flow of traffic, and a flagger directed Mr. LaGatta
 24 to proceed eastbound through the work zone, and

25 WHEREAS, an employee of the department was operating a
 26 tractor with a box blade attachment in the westbound travel
 27 lane, and

28 WHEREAS, the employee backed up into the eastbound travel
 29 lane, directly in front of Mr. LaGatta, causing a collision

Page 1 of 3

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

9-00081-26

202626

30 between the tractor's box blade and Mr. LaGatta's motorcycle,
 31 and

32 WHEREAS, as a result of the accident, Mr. LaGatta sustained
 33 severe injuries to his legs which resulted in the amputation of
 34 his left leg, and

35 WHEREAS, Mr. LaGatta was hospitalized for several weeks as
 36 a result of the accident, underwent seven surgeries and a
 37 tracheotomy, and was placed in an induced coma, and

38 WHEREAS, Mr. LaGatta was hospitalized when COVID-19
 39 protocols were enforced, and none of his five children were
 40 allowed to visit him in the hospital, and

41 WHEREAS, Mr. LaGatta was medically unable to return to his
 42 career as a maintenance engineer, and

43 WHEREAS, on February 28, 2023, in resolving the civil
 44 action brought in the Circuit Court for the Eighth Judicial
 45 Circuit, in and for Levy County, Case No. 38-2021-CA-54, a final
 46 judgment was entered in favor of Mr. LaGatta against the
 47 Department of Transportation, in the amount of \$2.32 million,
 48 and

49 WHEREAS, in August 2024, Mr. LaGatta passed away after
 50 suffering bodily injury resulting in pain and suffering;
 51 disfigurement; mental anguish; lost capacity for the
 52 enjoyment of life; the expense of hospitalization and medical
 53 and nursing care and treatment; lost earnings; and lost earning
 54 capacity following his accident, and

55 WHEREAS, the department paid \$120,000 to Mr. LaGatta under
 56 s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, before his passing, with the
 57 remainder of the judgment now payable to his estate, and

58 WHEREAS, the department has agreed to support this claim

Page 2 of 3

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

9-00081-26

202626__

59 bill, NOW, THEREFORE,

60
61 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:62
63 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this act are
64 found and declared to be true.65 Section 2. The sum of \$2.2 million is appropriated from the
66 General Revenue Fund to the Department of Transportation for the
67 relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta for injuries and damages
68 sustained by Mr. LaGatta.69 Section 3. The Chief Financial Officer is directed to draw
70 a warrant in favor of the Estate of Mark LaGatta in the amount
71 of \$2.2 million upon funds of the Department of Transportation
72 in the State Treasury and to pay the same out of such funds in
73 the State Treasury.74 Section 4. The amount paid by the Department of
75 Transportation pursuant to s. 768.28, Florida Statutes, and the
76 amount awarded under this act are intended to provide the sole
77 compensation for all present and future claims arising out of
78 the factual situation described in this act which resulted in
79 injuries and damages to Mark LaGatta. The total amount paid for
80 attorney fees relating to this claim may not exceed 25 percent
81 of the total amount awarded under this act.

82 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 3

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: McClain

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta by the Department of Transportation

Time: 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Place: The Set

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 3

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: McClain

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Relief of the Estate of Mark LaGatta by the Department
of Transportation

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: SB 26

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
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The Florida Senate

BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

BILL: CS/CS/SB 354

INTRODUCER: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, Community Affairs Committee and Senator McClain

SUBJECT: Blue Ribbon Projects

DATE: February 16, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. <u>Hackett</u>	<u>Fleming</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2. <u>Griffin</u>	<u>Nortelus</u>	<u>ATD</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3. _____	_____	<u>RC</u>	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/CS/SB 354 creates a framework for “Blue Ribbon Projects,” large scale development projects which trade state preemption over local governments’ comprehensive planning and land use regulations in exchange for a certain amount of “reserve area.” Such projects must include at least 10,000 acres of land, with at least 60 percent reserved for uses such as environmental protection, agriculture, recreation, and utilities sites, while the remainder may be developed over 50 years into towns and cities regardless of underlying comprehensive planning and land use allocations.

The bill provides the requirements under which a plan for such a project must be crafted and administratively approved by the Department of Commerce. The bill also provides for an appeal procedure for a denied applicant or an individual impacted by an approval.

The bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on private and governmental sectors. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Comprehensive Plans

The Community Planning Act directs counties and municipalities to plan for future development by adopting comprehensive plans.¹ Each local government must maintain a comprehensive plan to guide future development.²

All development, both public and private, and all development orders approved by local governments must be consistent with the local government's comprehensive plan.³ A comprehensive plan is intended to provide for the future use of land, which contemplates gradual and ordered growth, and establishes a long-range maximum limit on the possible intensity of land use.

Comprehensive plans lay out the locations for future public facilities, including roads, water and sewer facilities, neighborhoods, parks, schools, and commercial and industrial developments. They are made up of 10 required elements, each laying out regulations for different facets of development.⁴

The 10 required elements consider and address capital improvements; future land uses; transportation; general sanitary sewer, solid waste, drainage, potable water, and natural groundwater aquifer recharge; conservation; recreation and open space; housing; coastal management; intergovernmental coordination; and property rights. Other plans and programs may be added as optional elements to a comprehensive plan.⁵

Future Land Use Element and Compatibility

Comprehensive plans must include an element regarding future land use that designates the proposed future general distribution, location, and extent of the uses of land for a number of uses and categories of public and private uses of land.⁶ Each future land use category must be defined in terms of uses included, and must include standards to be followed in the control and distribution of population densities and building and structure intensities.⁷ The proposed distribution, location, and extent of the various categories of land use must be shown on a land use map or map series. Future land use plans and plan amendments are based on surveys, studies, and data regarding the area.⁸

¹ Section 163.3167(1), F.S.

² Section 163.3167(2), F.S.

³ Section 163.3194(3), F.S.

⁴ Section 163.3177(3) and (6), F.S.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Section 163.3177(6)(a), F.S. Applicable uses and categories of public and private uses of land include, but are not limited to, residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, conservation, educational, and public facilities. Section 163.3177(6)(a)10., F.S.

⁷ Section 163.3177(6)(a)1., F.S.

⁸ Section 163.3177(6)(a)2., F.S.

A comprehensive plan's future land use element establishes a range of allowable uses and densities and intensities over large areas, and the specific use and intensities for specific parcels within that range are decided by a more detailed, implementing zoning map.⁹

The future land use element must consider what uses are compatible with one another to guide rezoning requests, development orders, and plan amendments.¹⁰ Compatibility means "a condition in which land uses or conditions can coexist in relative proximity to each other in a stable fashion over time such that no use or condition is unduly negatively impacted directly or indirectly by another use or condition."¹¹ In other words, the compatibility requirement permits local governments to consider whether a proposed use can peacefully coexist with existing uses.

Local governments, through the future land use plan, are responsible for ensuring compatibility of uses on adjacent lands, and particularly those lands in proximity to military installations and airports.¹² To act on this requirement, land use regulations are required to contain specific and detailed provisions necessary to ensure the compatibility of adjacent land uses.¹³ In practice, these regulations take the form of zoning codes with compatibility standards for height, density, setbacks, parking, and other general regulations on what types of developments can coexist.¹⁴

Comprehensive Plan Amendments

Development that does not conform to the comprehensive plan may not be approved by a local government unless the local government amends its comprehensive plan first. State law requires a proposed comprehensive plan amendment to receive two public hearings, the first held by the local planning board, and subsequently by the governing board.¹⁵

Comprehensive plan amendment adoption must be by an affirmative vote of at least a majority of the governing body's members present at the hearing, and failure to hold a timely adoption hearing causes the amendment to be deemed withdrawn unless the timeframe is extended by agreement with specified notice to the state land planning agency, which is currently the Department of Commerce (Department), and other parties.¹⁶

Within 10 working days, the local government must transmit the plan amendment to the Department and any affected person who provided timely comments on the amendment.¹⁷ If no deficiencies are found following Department review, the amendment takes effect 31 days after the Department notifies the local government that the amendment package is complete for the expedited state review process, 31 days after the adoption of the amendment for small-scale

⁹ Richard Grosso, *A Guide to Development Order "Consistency" Challenges Under Florida Statutes Section 163.3215*, 34 J. ENVTL. L. & LITIG. 129, 154 (2019) (citing *Brevard Cty. v. Snyder*, 627 So. 2d 469, 475 (Fla. 1993)).

¹⁰ Section 163.3194(3), F.S.

¹¹ Section 163.3164(9), F.S.

¹² Section 163.3177(6)(a)2., F.S.

¹³ Section 163.3202(2)(b), F.S.

¹⁴ See, e.g., s. 5.10 (Residential Compatibility Standards), Land Development Code of Maitland, Florida.

¹⁵ Sections 163.3174(4)(a) and 163.3184, F.S.

¹⁶ Section 163.3184(3), (4), and (11), F.S.

¹⁷ *Id.*

development amendments, or pursuant to the Department's notice of intent determining the amendment is in compliance for the state coordinated review process.¹⁸

Amendments to comprehensive land use plans are legislative decisions that are subject to "fairly debatable" standard of review, even when amendments to plans are being sought as part of a rezoning application in respect to only one piece of property.¹⁹ "Fairly debatable" means that the government's action must be upheld if reasonable minds could differ as to the propriety of the decision reached.²⁰

Land Development Regulations

Comprehensive plans are implemented via land development regulations. Land development regulations are ordinances enacted by governing bodies for the regulation of any aspect of development and include any local government zoning, rezoning, subdivision, building construction, or sign regulations or any other regulations controlling the development of land.²¹

Each county and municipality must adopt and enforce land development regulations that are consistent with and implement their adopted comprehensive plan.²² Local governments are encouraged to use innovative land development regulations²³ and may adopt measures for the purpose of increasing affordable housing using land use mechanisms.²⁴ Land development regulations relating to all public and private development, including special district projects, must be consistent with the local comprehensive plan.²⁵

Zoning

A comprehensive plan's future land use element establishes a range of allowable uses and densities²⁶ and intensities²⁷ over large areas, while the specific use and intensities for specific parcels within that range are decided by a more detailed, implementing zoning map.²⁸

Zoning maps and zoning districts are adopted by a local government for developments within each land use category or sub-category. While land uses are general in nature, one or more zoning districts may apply within each land use designation.²⁹ Common regulations within the zoning map districts include density, height and bulk of buildings, setbacks, and parking

¹⁸ Sections 163.3184(3)(c)4., 163.3184(4)(e)4.-5., and 163.3187(5)(c), F.S.

¹⁹ Martin Cty. v. Yusem, 690 So.2d 1288, 1293-94 (Fla. 1997).

²⁰ Gary K. Hunter Jr. and Douglas M Smith, ABCs of Local Land Use and Zoning Decisions, 84 Fla. B.J. 20 (January 2010).

²¹ Section 163.3164(26), F.S.

²² Section 163.3202(1), F.S.

²³ Section 163.3202(3), F.S.

²⁴ Sections 125.01055 and 166.04151, F.S.

²⁵ See ss. 163.3161(6) and 163.3194(1)(a), F.S.

²⁶ "Density" means an objective measurement of the number of people or residential units allowed per unit of land, such as residents or employees per acre. S. 163.3164(12), F.S.

²⁷ "Intensity" means an objective measurement of the extent to which land may be developed or used, including the consumption or use of the space above, on, or below ground; the measurement of the use of or demand on natural resources; and the measurement of the use of or demand on facilities and services. S. 163.3164(22), F.S.

²⁸ Richard Grosso, A Guide to Development Order "Consistency" Challenges Under Florida Statutes Section 163.3215, 34 J. Envtl. L. & Litig. 129, 154 (2019) citing Brevard Cnty. v. Snyder, 627 So. 2d 469, 475 (Fla. 1993).

²⁹ See, e.g., Indian River County, Planning and Development Services FAQ (last visited Jan. 11, 2026).

requirements. Regulations for a zoning category in a downtown area may allow for more density and height than allowed in a suburb, for instance.

If a developer or landowner believes that a proposed development may have merit but it does not meet the requirements of a zoning map in a jurisdiction, the developer or landowner can seek a rezoning through a rezoning application.³⁰ Rezoning applications are initially reviewed by local government staff, followed by a review by an appointed body that makes recommendations to the governing body of the local government, which makes the final determination.³¹ If a property has unique circumstances or small nonconformities but otherwise meets zoning regulations, local governments may ease restrictions on certain regulations such as building size or setback through an application for a variance.³² However, any action to rezone or grant a variance must be consistent with the local government's comprehensive plan.

Concurrency and Proportionate Share

“Concurrency” is a phrase referring to a set of land use regulations requiring local governments to ensure that new development does not outstrip a local government’s ability to provide necessary services. Developments meet concurrency requirements when the local government has the infrastructure capacity to serve the new growth.

A concurrency requirement is a law stating that certain infrastructure must be in place and available to serve new development before the local government may allow new citizens to live in the new development.³³ For example, before a local government can approve a building permit to allow a new development, it must consult with its water suppliers to ensure adequate supplies to serve the new development will be available by the time citizens can move in.³⁴ Certain services are subject to concurrency statewide (sanitary sewer, solid waste, drainage, and potable water) while other services, such as public transportation or schools, may optionally be subjected to concurrency by a local government.³⁵

Proportionate share is a tool local governments may use to require developers to help mitigate the impacts of their development notwithstanding a failure to achieve and maintain the adopted level of service standards.³⁶ Proportionate share generally requires developers to contribute to costs, or build facilities, necessary to offset a new development’s impacts.³⁷

³⁰ See e.g., City of Tallahassee, Application for Rezoning Review (last visited Jan. 11, 2026).

³¹ See id. and City of Redington Shores, Planning and Zoning Board (last visited Jan. 11, 2026).

³² See e.g., City of Tallahassee, Variance and Appeals and Seminole County, Variance Processes (last visited Jan. 11, 2026).

³³ Section 163.3180(2), F.S.

³⁴ *Id.*

³⁵ Section 163.3180(1), F.S.

³⁶ Florida Department of Community Affairs (now Department of Economic Opportunity), *Transportation Concurrency: Best Practices Guide*, pg. 64 (2007), available at https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1041&context=cutr_tppfr (last visited Jan. 10, 2026).

³⁷ *Id.*

Development Rights

Land development, especially large-scale development, is completed in stages. During the development process, a landowner will often commence a particular land use activity in accordance with then-current zoning regulations that are amended at some later point in the development process in a manner that would prohibit the use. At this point, a landowner may claim a vested right to complete the project under the prior zoning regulations, asserting that when development activities commenced under the prior zoning scheme, he or she acquired a property right, which cannot now be abridged by the government's exercise of its police powers, that is, the amended zoning ordinance.³⁸

Florida common law provides that vested rights may be established if a landowner or development has made a substantial change in position or has incurred extensive obligations that would make interfering with the acquired right inequitable in good faith reliance on an act or omission of government.³⁹

Florida law also allows for local governments to enter into development agreements with developers.⁴⁰ These agreements are “contract[s] between a local government and a property owner/developer, which provides the developer with vested rights by freezing the existing zoning regulations applicable to a property in exchange for public benefits.”⁴¹ A development agreement must contain:

- A legal description of the land subject to the agreement and the names of its legal and equitable owners.
- The duration of the agreement.
- The development uses permitted on the land, including population densities, and building intensities and height.
- A description of public facilities that will service the development, including who will provide such facilities, the date any new facilities (if needed) will be constructed, and a schedule to assure public facilities are available concurrent with the impacts of the development.
- A description of any reservation or dedication of land for public purposes.
- A description of all local development permits approved or needed to be approved for the development of the land.
- A finding that the development permitted or proposed is consistent with the local government's comprehensive plan and land development regulations.
- A description of any conditions, terms, restrictions, or other requirements determined to be necessary by the local government for the public health, safety, or welfare of its citizens.
- A statement indicating that the failure of the agreement to address a particular permit, condition, term, or restriction does not relieve the developer of the necessity of complying

³⁸ 35 Am. Jur. Proof of Facts 3d s. 385 (1996).

³⁹ Monroe Cnty. v. Ambrose, 866 So.2d 707, 710 (Fla. 3rd DCA 2003).

⁴⁰ Section 163.3220(4), F.S.; See ss. 163.3220-163.3143, F.S., known as the “Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act.”

⁴¹ Morgan Co., Inc. v. Orange County, 818 So. 2d 640 (Fla. 5th DCA 2002); 7 Fla. Jur 2d Building, Zoning, and Land Controls § 168 (2019).

with the law governing said permitting requirements, conditions, terms, or restrictions.⁴²

Within 14 days after a local government enters into a development agreement, the local government must record the agreement with the clerk of the circuit court in the county where the local government is located, and such an agreement is not effective until it is properly recorded.⁴³ A development agreement binds any person who obtains ownership of a property already subject to an agreement (successor in interest).⁴⁴ A development agreement may be amended or canceled by mutual consent of the parties to the agreement or by their successors in interest.⁴⁵

Preemption

Preemption refers to the principle that a federal or state statute can supersede or supplant state or local law that stands as an obstacle to accomplishing the full purposes and objectives of the overriding federal or state law.⁴⁶

Where state preemption applies, a local government may not exercise authority in that area.⁴⁷ Whether a local government ordinance or other measure violates preemption is ultimately decided by a court. If a local government improperly enacts an ordinance or other measure on a matter preempted to the state, a person may challenge the ordinance by filing a lawsuit. A court ruling against the local government may declare the preempted ordinance void.⁴⁸

Affordable Housing

One major goal at all levels of government is to ensure that citizens have access to affordable housing. Housing is considered affordable when it costs less than 30 percent of a family's gross income. A family paying more than 30 percent of its income for housing is considered "cost burdened," while those paying more than 50 percent are considered "extremely cost burdened."

What makes housing "affordable" is a decrease in monthly rent so that income eligible households can pay less for the housing than it would otherwise cost at "market rate."⁴⁹ Lower monthly rent payment is a result of affordable housing financing that comes with an enforceable agreement from the developer to restrict the rent that can be charged based on the size of the household and the number of bedrooms in the unit.⁵⁰ The financing of affordable housing is made possible through government programs such as the federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program and the Florida's State Apartment Incentive Loan program.⁵¹

⁴² Section 163.3227(1) and (2), F.S.; 7 Fla. Jur 2d Building, Zoning, and Land Controls § 168 (2019).

⁴³ Section 163.3239, F.S.; 7 Fla. Jur 2d Building, Zoning, and Land Controls § 168 (2019).

⁴⁴ A successor in interest is one who follows another in ownership or control of property. A successor in interest retains the same rights as the original owner, with no change in substance. Black's Law Dictionary 1473 (8th ed. 2004); s. 163.3239, F.S.

⁴⁵ Section 163.3237, F.S.

⁴⁶ Preemption Definition, Black's Law Dictionary (12th ed. 2024).

⁴⁷ *D'Agastino v. City of Miami*, 220 So. 3d 410 (Fla. 2017); Judge James R. Wolf and Sarah Harley Bolinder, *The Effectiveness of Home Rule: A Preemptions and Conflict Analysis*, 83 Fla. B.J. 92 (June 2009).

⁴⁸ See, e.g., *Nat'l Rifle Ass'n of Am., Inc. v. City of S. Miami*, 812 So. 2d 504 (Fla. 3d DCA 2002).

⁴⁹ The Florida Housing Coalition, *Affordable Housing in Florida*, p. 3, available at: <https://flhousing.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Affordable-Housing-in-Florida.pdf> (last visited Jan. 10, 2026).

⁵⁰ *Id.*

⁵¹ *Id.*

Resident eligibility for Florida's state and federally funded housing programs is typically governed by area median income (AMI) levels. These levels are published annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for every county and metropolitan area.⁵² Florida Statutes categorizes the levels of household income as follows:

- Extremely low income – households at or below 30 percent AMI;⁵³
- Very low income – households at or below 50 percent AMI;⁵⁴
- Low income – households at or below 80 percent AMI;⁵⁵ and
- Moderate income – households at or below 120 percent AMI.⁵⁶

Florida Hometown Hero Program

The Live Local Act⁵⁷ established in statute the Florida Hometown Hero Program,⁵⁸ a homeownership assistance program administered by the Florida Housing Finance Corporation (FHFC). Under the program, eligible first-time homebuyers have access to zero-interest loans to reduce the amount of down payment and closing costs by a minimum of \$10,000 and up to 5 percent of the first mortgage loan, not exceeding \$35,000. Loans must be repaid when the property is sold, refinanced, rented, or transferred unless otherwise approved by the FHFC. Repayments for loans made under this program must be retained within the program to make additional loans.

Such loans are available to those first-time homebuyers⁵⁹ seeking first mortgages whose family incomes do not exceed 150 percent of the state or local AMI, whichever is greater, and is employed full-time by a Florida-based employer.

Conservation Lands

Article X, section 18 of the Florida Constitution requires that “the fee interest in real property held by an entity of the state and designated for natural resources conservation purposes as provided by general law shall be managed for the benefit of the citizens of this state...”⁶⁰

Conservation Land Management

The Board of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund (board) is charged with the management, control, supervision, conservation, and protection of all lands owned by, or which may hereafter inure to, the state or any of its agencies, departments, boards or commissions.⁶¹ Section 253.034,

⁵² U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, *Income Limits, Access Individual Income Limits Areas – Click Here for FY 2023 IL Documentation*, available at <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/datasets/il.html#2021> (last visited Jan. 10, 2026).

⁵³ Section 420.0004(9), F.S.

⁵⁴ Section 420.0004(17), F.S.

⁵⁵ Section 420.0004(11), F.S.

⁵⁶ Section 420.0004(12), F.S.

⁵⁷ The “Live Local Act”, Ch. 2023-17, Laws of Fla., made various changes to affordable housing related programs and policies at the state and local levels, including zoning and land use preemptions favoring affordable housing, funding for state affordable housing programs, and tax provisions intended to incentivize affordable housing development.

⁵⁸ Section 420.5096, F.S.

⁵⁹ The requirement to be a first-time homebuyer does not apply to those qualifying as servicemembers or veterans.

⁶⁰ FLA. CONST. art. X, s. 18.

⁶¹ Section 253.03, F.S.

F.S., specifies that state lands acquired pursuant to ch. 259, F.S., are required to be managed to ensure the conservation of the state's plant and animal species and to ensure the accessibility of state lands for the benefit and enjoyment of all people of the state, both present and future.⁶² Additionally, all lands acquired and managed under ch. 259, F.S., are required to be managed in a manner that provides the greatest combination of benefits to the public and to the resources, for public outdoor recreation which is compatible with the conservation and protection of public lands, and for the purposes for which the lands were acquired.⁶³

Short-term and long-term management goals must include measurable objectives for the following, as appropriate:

- Habitat restoration and improvement.
- Public access and recreational opportunities.
- Hydrological preservation and restoration.
- Sustainable forest management.
- Exotic and invasive species maintenance and control.
- Capital facilities and infrastructure.
- Cultural and historical resources.
- Imperiled species habitat maintenance, enhancement, restoration, or population restoration.⁶⁴

The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, on behalf of the board, is authorized to allocate money to acquire perpetual, less-than-fee interests in land, enter into agricultural protection agreements, and enter into resource conservation agreements.⁶⁵ To qualify for acquisition, the agricultural land must protect the integrity and function of working landscapes, ensure opportunities for viable agricultural activities on working lands threatened by conversion to other uses, and meet at least one of the following public purposes:

- Promoting and protecting wildlife habitats.
- Perpetuating open space on working lands that contain significant natural areas.
- Protecting, restoring, or enhancing water bodies, aquifer recharge areas, wetlands, or watersheds.
- Protecting agricultural lands threatened by conversion to other uses.⁶⁶

Florida Wildlife Corridor

The 2021 Legislature created the Florida Wildlife Corridor Act to "create incentives for conservation and sustainable development while sustaining and conserving green infrastructure that acts as the foundation of the state's economy and quality of life."⁶⁷ The Legislature appropriated \$300 million,⁶⁸ directing the DEP to encourage and promote investments in areas

⁶² Section 253.034(5)(a), F.S.

⁶³ Section 259.032(7), F.S.; s. 259.032(7)(a)2, F.S., provides that "such management may include, but not be limited to, the following public recreational uses: fishing, hunting, camping, bicycling, hiking, nature study, swimming, boating, canoeing, horseback riding, diving, model hobbyist activities, birding, sailing, jogging, and other related outdoor activities compatible with the purposes for which the lands were acquired."

⁶⁴ Section 253.034(5)(b), F.S.

⁶⁵ Section 570.71(1), F.S.

⁶⁶ *Id.*

⁶⁷ Section 259.1055(3), F.S.

⁶⁸ Chapter 2021-37. L.O.F., s. 152.

that protect and enhance the Wildlife Corridor by establishing a “network of connected wildlife habitats required for the long-term survival of and genetic exchange amongst regional wildlife populations which serves to prevent fragmentation by providing ecological connectivity of the lands needed to furnish adequate habitats and allow safe movement and dispersal.”⁶⁹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Blue Ribbon Projects

The bill creates a framework for “Blue Ribbon Projects,” large scale development projects which trade state preemption over local governments’ comprehensive planning and land use regulations in exchange for a certain amount of “reserve area.”⁷⁰ An individual will develop a “Blue Ribbon Plan” which, when administratively approved, grants development rights regardless of the land’s underlying comprehensive plan, zoning, and land development regulations.

An eligible project must contain at least 10,000 acres of contiguous land controlled by a single owner, and the majority must not be within a municipality. At least 60 percent of the land must be reserved, while the other 40 percent may be developed.

Reserve Area

The bill provides that the reserve area is land set aside for any or all of the following:

- Environmental conservation, wildlife corridors, or wetland and wildlife mitigation;
- Productive agriculture and silviculture (forestry);
- Uses consistent with the public purposes described by 570.71(1), which include:
 - Promotion and improvement of wildlife habitat;
 - Protection and enhancement of water bodies, aquifer recharge areas, wetlands, and watersheds;
 - Perpetuation of open space on lands with significant natural areas; or
 - Protection of agricultural lands threatened by conversion to other uses;
- Parks and recreational activities;
- Utility sites;
- Reservoirs and lakes; or
- Other similar types of open space.

Reserve areas may not include golf courses or data centers. Some proposed uses for the reserve area, particularly recreational activities and utility sites, are undefined and unclear as to the breadth of permitted use.

If any project boundary is contiguous to state-owned environmental preservation land or the Florida wildlife corridor, an unspecified amount of the project’s reserve area must be adjacent to such land.

⁶⁹ Section 259.1055(4)(g), F.S.

⁷⁰ The bill’s stated intent is to balance environmental stewardship with the need for development to provide for future growth. The bill states the Legislature intends for these projects to promote the preservation of natural areas, encourage agricultural land uses and rural land stewardship, protect critical ecological systems, expand wildlife corridors, and provide for more compact mixed-use developments designed for long-term viability.

Development Area

The remaining area, up to 40 percent of the project, may be utilized for development, subject to the following limitations:

- Individual development areas within the project must promote walkability, mobility, and mixed uses;
- At least 15 percent of the development must be nonresidential, which may include mixed use where the ground floor is nonresidential;
- An unspecified portion must be allocated to provide economic development and create “high-wage” jobs (undefined) in a location within 60 miles of an an interstate interchange, rail line, airport, or any other transportation; The area must have a dense, walkable, mixed-use, “human-centered” development pattern including “new urban design”⁷¹ with towns, villages, and “hamlets” with reserve area separating them; and
- Residential units must include single-family, multifamily, attached, and detached units.

The bill grants the development area a maximum residential density of 12 units per gross acre, and nonresidential intensity of 85 percent surface ratio per acre within the development area. At least 20 percent of residential units within the development area in each phase must include affordable housing, missing middle housing,⁷² or housing for people eligible for the Florida Hometown Hero Program.⁷³

The development area may be developed in phases, with development rights to be vested for at least 50 years. If the development is at least 50 percent developed within 50 years, the vested period must be extended another 25 years.

Blue Ribbon Plans

Each project must be developed in accordance with a blue ribbon plan that is the master development plan for the project. These plans, which are based on a planning period longer than the 20-year period required in a local government’s comprehensive plan, must specify a population projection for the planning area during the chosen planning period. A plan is not required to demonstrate need based on projected population growth or any other basis.

Each blue ribbon plan must contain documentation, as well as exhibits including maps, illustrations, and text supported by data and analysis, that include:

- A long-term master development map that depicts the locations of the reserve and development areas.
- Identification and analysis of necessary water supplies and available sources of water, including water resource development and water supply development projects, and water conservation measures required to meet the projected demand from each phase of the project.

⁷¹ Defined by the bill as “development design that creates walkable, mixed-use, human-centered places.”

⁷² Defined by the bill as any of a range of for-sale and for-rent housing types more dense than single-family home and less dense than large apartments.

⁷³ A borrower must be seeking to purchase a home as a primary residence; must be a first-time homebuyer and a Florida resident; and must be employed full-time by a Florida-based employer. Section 420.5096(3), F.S.

- Identification and analysis of transportation facilities and future transportation corridors necessary to serve development area land uses contained in the blue ribbon plan, including guidelines for each modal component to optimize mobility.
- Identification of other regionally significant public facilities, which must include utilities, parks, and schools, necessary to support the project's permitted density for each phase of the project and policies providing procedures to mitigate the impacts of the project's permitted density on public facilities.
- Identification of regionally significant natural resources within the reserve area based on the best available data and policies, and mechanisms to ensure the perpetual protection or conservation of specific resources, consistent with the overall conservation and development strategy for the project area.
- General principles and guidelines to:
 - Address land uses within the development and reserve areas, including the interrelationships between those areas.
 - Address the protection, restoration, and management of reserve areas identified in the blue ribbon plan for permanent conservation and public use, which must be phased in coordination with the phased development.
 - Achieve a cleaner and healthier environment.
 - Limit urban sprawl.
 - Provide a range of housing types.
 - Protect wildlife and natural areas.
 - Advance the efficient use of land and other resources.
 - Create quality communities of a design that reduces and captures vehicle trips and promotes mobility options.
 - Enhance the prospects for state and local economic development objectives and high-wage job creation.
- Provision for an easement granted to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for any portion of the reserve area to be reserved for uses consistent with 570.71. The department and landowner must enter into an agreement regarding uses for the easement interest prior to an easement being granted.
- A covenant requiring easements granted to state or local governments be granted without charge.
- Development standards for each type of land use proposed within the development area which is typically found in a planned unit development.⁷⁴

Water and wastewater facilities, transportation facilities, and other regionally significant public facilities must be provided. The bill provides that these facilities may be provided by the applicant, a local unit of special purpose government or special district except an improvement district, a local government, or the state.

The bill encourages local governments to enter into public-private partnerships to provide public facilities, including partnerships for water storage and other water quality and capacity

⁷⁴ A “planned unit development” is an area of land that is planned and developed as a single entity or in approved stages with uses and structures substantially related to the character of the entire development, or a self-contained development in which the subdivision and zoning controls are applied to the project as a whole rather than to individual lots. Section 163.3202(5)(b)2., F.S.

improvements that operate in the same manner as public-private partnerships for water improvements on private agricultural lands.

For certain infrastructure, the bill provides that a special assessment district may enter agreement with the applicant to fund and construct required improvements. The special assessment district created by the bill allows for the assessment of ad valorem or non-ad valorem taxes on parcels of real property located within the project for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, repairing, and replacing capital improvements.

If a project under a blue ribbon plan contributes land, funds, or otherwise causes the construction of public facilities necessary for achieving concurrency, the project must receive dollar-for-dollar credits against impact, mobility, proportionate share, or other fee credits from the local government for such facility improvements as required under the concurrency statute.⁷⁵

Administrative Review

Department of Commerce Review

A landowner first applies to the Department of Commerce for approval of a blue ribbon project with a fully compliant blue ribbon plan. The department reviews a project for compliance, in conjunction with comments from the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Department of Transportation, and the applicable water management district. The Department of Commerce will either approve the project or provide notice of any noncompliance, with an opportunity to respond.

If the department fails to either approve the application or provide notice of noncompliance within 45 days after receipt, the application is automatically approved. At any point after the initial 45-day period, the applicant may request a final determination, and the department must provide the determination within 7 days after the request, or the application is automatically deemed approved.

Local Government Review

Following state review, the landowner applies to the relevant local government(s) for approval. Within 30 days the local government must conduct a public workshop at which the project is presented. Within 15 days of receipt the local government must review the project for compliance with the requirements of the bill. A project in compliance must be administratively approved without further action. A project approved by the Department of Commerce is presumed to be in compliance; for a local government to overcome such presumption, the local government must find that the blue ribbon plan fails to meet all specified criteria. The local government must provide written notice of any specific noncompliance and provide the applicant 60 days to respond. If the local government fails to provide such notice within 90 days after receipt or fails to respond within 30 days after receiving response, the application is deemed approved.

⁷⁵ Section 163.3180, F.S.

A project may be located on land with any future land use designation and with any zoning designation listed in the applicable local government's land development regulations. The local government may not require a comprehensive plan amendment or rezoning for approval of the project.

The bill provides that an application is automatically approved if a local government fails to provide written comments on the application within 90 days after receipt of the application or within 30 days after the applicant files amended application documents that are responsive to the local government's initial review. At any point after the conclusion of the initial 90-day review period, the applicant may request a final determination, which must be made within seven days after receipt of the request.

If a project is approved, the bill requires the applicant to publish notice of the approval in a newspaper of general circulation in the area in which the land is located within 14 days after the approval is issued. The applicant must also record the blue ribbon plan in the public records of the county in which the project is located. The bill provides that the plan runs with the title to the land. A recorded plan may be amended using the same review procedures as the initial application, with the local government's review being limited to the portion of the plan being amended.

Appeal Procedure

If the Department of Commerce denies an application for a blue ribbon project, the applicant may request an administrative hearing within 21 days after receipt of the denial.

If a local government denies an application, the applicant may appeal the decision by filing a written petition with the Department of Commerce (Department) within 21 days after receipt of the denial. The applicant must provide a copy of the notice of appeal to the local government.

Additionally, any person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by a local government's approval may file a written petition with the Department challenging the approval. This petition must be filed within 21 days of the publication of public notice of the approval. The petition must clearly state the reasons for the petition and describe how the project will adversely affect the person more substantially than the general population of the geographical area in which the project is located. The petitioner must provide a copy of the petition to the local government. If the petition is timely filed, the applicant may intervene as a party to the hearing.

Upon receipt of an appeal or petition, the Department must hold a hearing in accordance with ch. 120, F.S., and determine whether the plan meets all requirements and issue a final order granting or denying the application. The Department may attach conditions or restrictions to the order.

The bill authorizes a prevailing party in proceedings brought by a person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the local government's approval of a plan to be awarded reasonable attorney fees if the non-prevailing party has been determined by the administrative law judge to have participated in the proceeding for an improper purpose.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill will have an indeterminate, likely positive impact on private sector developers able to utilize the Blue Ribbon Project process to bypass various local approval processes, saving time and money on development where applicable.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The bill will have an indeterminate, likely negative impact on local governments attempting to maintain required services and general levels of service for various government functions with regard to entire towns developed outside the scope of a comprehensive plan or future land use map.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

The bill lacks technical details in various respects and does not specify mechanisms by which:

- The reserve area's restrictions will be maintained;

- Concurrency, mobility, proportionate share, and impact fees will be calculated for a large scale development entirely outside the local government's comprehensive plan and future land use;
- Concurrency will be maintained through fees and agreements, with concurrency being incalculable due to working outside the comprehensive plan and land use regulations;
- The state or local government will be involved in ensuring transportation, energy, and school services; or
- The timeline for local government review appears to be out of order.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill creates section 163.3249 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes: (Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS/CS by Appropriation Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development on February 12, 2026:

The committee substitute:

- Adds and revises definitions, including establishment of “special assessment district” as an authorized financing mechanism for project related infrastructure.
- Codifies minimum eligibility criteria for blue ribbon project designation, including a minimum 10,000 contiguous acres under common ownership or control.
- Requires at least 60% of project acreage to be designated as reserve/conservation land, with adjacency and protection requirements near state conservation lands and wildlife corridors.
- Limits the developable area to no more than 40% of total acreage and excludes certain uses (e.g., golf courses and data centers) from counting toward reserve requirements.
- Imposes additional land use and design standards intended to ensure mixed-use, walkable, and integrated development patterns within the developable area.
- Authorizes use of special assessment or improvement districts to finance capital facilities and infrastructure serving the project.

CS by Community Affairs on January 13, 2026:

The committee substitute adds to the list of approved uses of reserve land uses consistent with public purposes under s. 570.71(1), F.S., and requires a Blue Ribbon Plan to include provision for an easement granted to the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for any portion of the reserve area to be reserved for such uses; the department and landowner must enter into an agreement regarding uses for the easement interest prior to an easement being granted. A Blue Ribbon Plan must also include a covenant requiring easements granted to state or local governments be granted without charge.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/12/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development (McClain) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

1 Delete lines 94 - 329
2
3 and insert:
4 activities. Reserve areas may not include golf courses or data
5 centers.
6 (h) "Special assessment district" means a community
7 development district, municipal services taxing district,
8 municipal services benefit district, or other district available
9 under state law that allows for the assessment of ad valorem or



11 non-ad valorem taxes on parcels of real property located within
12 a blue ribbon project for the purpose of constructing,
13 maintaining, repairing, and replacing capital improvements that
14 serve the blue ribbon project. The term does not include an
15 improvement district.

16 (3) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—A development project must meet
17 all of the following requirements to qualify as a blue ribbon
18 project:

19 (a) The project must contain a minimum of 10,000 acres of
20 land which are contiguous as defined in s. 163.3163(3)(a) and
21 which are owned by the same person or by entities owned or
22 controlled by the same person, and the majority of which are not
23 located within a municipality.

24 (b) At least 60 percent of the land contained in the
25 project must be reserve area. If any project boundary is
26 contiguous to state-owned environmental preservation land or the
27 Florida wildlife corridor, a portion of the project's reserve
28 area must be located adjacent to the state-owned land or the
29 Florida wildlife corridor, as applicable.

30 (c) Up to 40 percent of the land contained in the project
31 may be development area. The development area must meet all of
32 the following requirements:

33 1. Individual development areas within the project must be
34 designed to enhance walkability and mobility and must include a
35 mix of land uses.

36 2. At least 15 percent of the development area must be
37 allocated to nonresidential land uses, which may include mixed-
38 use buildings that contain ground floor nonresidential units.

39 Conservation easement areas may not be counted toward the 15



40 percent.

41 3. A portion of the development area must be allocated to
42 uses intended to provide economic development and create high-
43 wage jobs. The development area so allocated must be in a
44 location that is within 60 miles of an interstate interchange,
45 an active rail line, or a regional or international airport or
46 other transportation facility.

47 4. The development area must have a dense, walkable, mixed-
48 use, human-centered development pattern that includes new urban
49 design, including, but not limited to, towns, villages, and
50 hamlets that have reserve area between them.

51 5. Types of residential units within the development area
52 must be varied and include single-family, multifamily, and
53 attached and detached residential units.

54 (4) DEVELOPMENT AREA DENSITIES AND INTENSITIES.—

55 (a) A maximum residential density of 12 units per gross
56 acre, and a maximum nonresidential intensity of 85 percent
57 impervious surface ratio per gross acre, is permitted within the
58 development area, as measured in combination throughout all
59 phases of the project.

60 (b) At least 20 percent of residential units within the
61 development area in each phase of the project must be a
62 combination of the following:

63 1. Affordable housing, with initial sale prices and ongoing
64 rents at or below 80 percent of adjusted gross income, as
65 defined in s. 420.602, for the county in which the development
66 area is located.

67 2. Missing middle housing.

68 3. Housing for people eligible for the Florida Hometown



69 Hero Program under s. 420.5096.

70 (c) The development area may be developed in phases to
71 accommodate growth projections in the geographical area in which
72 the project is located. Development rights and mitigation of
73 project impacts shall be vested for at least 50 years. If the
74 applicant achieves development as defined in s. 380.04 of at
75 least 50 percent of the development area within 50 years after
76 the project's date of initial public dedication of
77 infrastructure, the vested period must be extended for an
78 additional 25 years.

79 (5) BLUE RIBBON PLANS.—A blue ribbon project must have a
80 blue ribbon plan, which is the master development plan for the
81 project. Blue ribbon plans must include a document that
82 addresses the requirements of this section and exhibits,
83 including maps, illustrations, and text supported by data and
84 analysis, that demonstrate compliance therewith. The plan must
85 include all of the following:

86 (a) A long-term master development map that, at a minimum,
87 generally depicts the locations of reserve area and development
88 area throughout the project area.

89 (b) Identification and analysis of necessary water supplies
90 and available sources of water, including water resource
91 development and water supply development projects, and water
92 conservation measures required to meet the projected demand from
93 each phase of the project. Water and wastewater facilities must
94 be provided in compliance with s. 163.3180. Such facilities may
95 be provided by the applicant; a local unit of special purpose
96 government or a special district, except an improvement
97 district; a local government; or the state. Local governments



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98 are encouraged to enter into public-private partnerships to
99 accomplish water storage and other water quality and capacity
100 improvements within the boundaries of blue ribbon projects
101 pursuant to s. 373.4591.

102 (c) Identification and analysis of the transportation
103 facilities and future transportation corridors necessary to
104 serve development area land uses in the master development plan,
105 including guidelines to be used to establish each modal
106 component intended to optimize mobility. Transportation
107 facilities must be provided in compliance with s. 163.3180. Such
108 facilities must be provided by the applicant or a special
109 assessment district created at the request of the applicant. A
110 special assessment district, a local government, or the state
111 may enter into a public-private partnership with the applicant
112 pursuant to s. 255.065 to provide such facilities. Internal
113 roads must be designed in accordance with the Department of
114 Transportation's traditional neighborhood development guidelines
115 provided in chapter 19 of the Manual of Uniform Minimum
116 Standards for Design, Construction and Maintenance for Streets
117 and Highways, 2023 edition.

118 (d) Identification of other regionally significant public
119 facilities necessary to support the project's permitted density
120 as provided in paragraph (4)(a) for each phase of the project,
121 which facilities must include utilities, parks, and schools, and
122 policies providing the procedures to mitigate the impacts of the
123 project's permitted density on public facilities. Public
124 facilities must be provided in compliance with s. 163.3180. Such
125 facilities must be provided by the applicant or a special
126 assessment district created at the request of the applicant. A



127 special assessment district, a local government, or the state
128 may enter into a public-private partnership with the applicant
129 pursuant to s. 255.065 to provide such facilities.

130 (e) Identification of regionally significant natural
131 resources within the reserve area based on the best available
132 data and policies, and provision of mechanisms to ensure the
133 perpetual protection or conservation of specific resources,
134 consistent with the overall conservation and development
135 strategy for the project area. The provision of regionally
136 significant natural resources within the reserve area is
137 determined to be a net ecosystem benefit.

138 (f) General principles and guidelines that do all of the
139 following:

- 140 1. Address the land uses within the development area and
141 reserve area, and the interrelationships between such areas.
- 142 2. Address the protection and, as appropriate, restoration
143 and management of reserve areas identified in the recorded blue
144 ribbon plan for permanent conservation and public use, which
145 must be phased in coordination with the phased development
146 within the development area as specified in the master
147 development plan.
- 148 3. Achieve a cleaner, healthier environment.
- 149 4. Limit urban sprawl.
- 150 5. Provide a range of housing types.
- 151 6. Protect wildlife and natural areas.
- 152 7. Advance the efficient use of land and other resources.
- 153 8. Create quality communities of a design that reduces and
154 captures vehicle trips and promotes mobility options.
- 155 9. Enhance the prospects for state and local economic



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156 development objectives and high-wage job creation.

157 (g) Development standards for each type of land use
158 proposed within the development area which is typically found in
159 a planned unit development as defined in s. 163.3202(5)(b) and
160 which is consistent with new urban design.

161 (h) Provision for an easement granted without charge to the
162 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services under s. 570.71
163 for any portion of the reserve area which will be reserved for
164 uses consistent with the public purposes provided in s.
165 570.71(1). The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
166 and the landowner must enter into an agreement regarding
167 allowable uses for the easement interest before an easement is
168 granted. The plan must also include a covenant that any easement
169 or property granted to another state agency, a water management
170 district, or a local government will be granted without charge.

171
172 A blue ribbon plan must be based on a planning period longer
173 than the generally applicable planning period of the local
174 comprehensive plan and must specify the projected population
175 within the planning area during the chosen planning period. A
176 plan is not required to demonstrate need based on projected
177 population growth or any other basis. If under the plan a
178 project contributes land or funds or otherwise causes the
179 construction of public facilities pursuant to s. 163.3180, the
180 project must receive dollar-for-dollar credits against impact,
181 mobility, proportionate share, or other fee credits from the
182 local government for such facility improvements as required by
183 s. 163.3180. Impact fees must be calculated as applicable at the
184 time of issuance of building permits.

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185 (6) STATE ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OF BLUE RIBBON PLANS.—In
186 order to initiate approval of a blue ribbon plan, a landowner
187 shall apply first to the Department of Commerce for approval of
188 a blue ribbon project. The application must include a blue
189 ribbon plan that meets the requirements of subsection (5). The
190 department's review of a project is limited to a review for
191 compliance with this section. The department shall provide
192 copies of the application to the Department of Agriculture and
193 Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection,
194 the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Department of
195 Transportation, and the applicable water management district for
196 review and comment within each entity's respective legal purview
197 on the plan's compliance with this section. Such entities shall
198 provide written comments to the Department of Commerce within 21
199 days after receipt of the application by the department. Within
200 45 days after receipt of the application, the department shall
201 approve the application or provide to the applicant a written
202 notice that identifies with specificity any areas of
203 noncompliance and includes the written comments received from
204 the specified entities. If the department fails to either
205 approve the application or provide such notice within 45 days
206 after receipt of the application, or fails to provide a written
207 approval or denial of the application within 20 days after the
208 applicant provides a response to the notice, the application is
209 automatically approved by the department. At any point after the
210 department's initial 45-day review period, the applicant may
211 request a final determination of approval or denial by the
212 department, and the department must provide the determination
213 within 7 days after receipt of the request. If the department

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214 fails to provide the determination within the 7-day period, the
215 application is automatically approved by the department.

216 (7) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OF BLUE RIBBON
217 PLANS.—

218 (a) A blue ribbon project may be located on land with any
219 future land use designation provided in the applicable local
220 government's comprehensive plan and with any zoning designation
221 listed in the applicable local government's land development
222 regulations. A local government's approval of a project creates
223 an overlay special district within the local government's
224 comprehensive plan which must adhere to the project's blue
225 ribbon plan. A local government may not require a comprehensive
226 plan amendment or rezoning for approval of a project.

227 (b) 1. Upon approval of a blue ribbon project by the
228 Department of Commerce, the landowner shall apply to the local
229 government for approval of the project. If the project is
230 located within more than one local government's jurisdiction,
231 the landowner must apply to each applicable local government. In
232 reviewing the project, each applicable local government shall
233 apply subsections (3), (4), and (5) to the project as a whole.

234 2. Within 30 days after receipt of an application for
235 approval of a project, the local government shall conduct a duly
236 noticed public workshop at which the project is presented. The
237 applicant must be permitted to attend and participate in the
238 workshop.

239 3. The local government shall review the project within 15
240 days after receipt of the application. The review is limited to
241 a review for compliance with this section. A project that is in
242 compliance with this section must be administratively approved



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243 without further action by the local government or any quasi-
244 judicial or administrative reviewing body. A project approved by
245 the Department of Commerce is presumed to be in compliance with
246 this section. In order for a local government to overcome such
247 presumption, the local government must find that the blue ribbon
248 plan does not comply with subsection (5). If the local
249 government makes such a finding, the local government must
250 provide a written notice to the applicant which identifies with
251 specificity the area of noncompliance and provides the applicant
252 60 days to respond and submit any information necessary to
253 comply with subsection (5). If the local government fails to
254 provide such notice within 90 days after receipt of the
255 application, or fails to provide a written approval or denial of
256 the application within 30 days after the applicant provides a
257 response to such notice, the application is automatically
258 approved. At any point after the local government's initial 90-
259 day review period, the applicant may request a final
260 determination of approval or denial by the local government, and
261 the local government must provide the determination within 7
262 days after receipt of the request. If the local government fails
263 to provide the determination within the 7-day period, the
264 application is automatically approved.

265 (c) Applicants may hire private companies to conduct plan
266 reviews and building inspections pursuant to s. 553.791.

267 (d) If a blue ribbon project is approved, the applicant
268 must publish notice of such approval in a newspaper of general
269 circulation in the area in which the land is located. The notice
270 must include the local government order number, if any; the
271 section, township, and range in which the land is located; and a



272 description of the project. The notice must be published within
273 14 days after the approval is issued.

274 (e) After a blue ribbon project has been reviewed and
275 approved, the applicant must record the blue ribbon plan in the
276 public records of the county in which the project property is
277 located, and the plan shall run with title to the land. The
278 applicant may not amend the recorded plan without undergoing
279 local government review of the plan amendment in accordance with
280 paragraph (b). Local government review of a plan amendment is
281 limited to the portions of the plan which are being revised.

282 (8) APPEAL PROCEDURE.—

283 (a) 1. If the Department of Commerce denies an application
284 for a blue ribbon project, the applicant may request an
285 administrative hearing pursuant to ss. 120.569 and 120.57 within
286 21 days after the date on which the applicant receives the
287 department's written denial.

288 2. If a local government denies an application for a blue
289 ribbon project, the applicant may appeal the decision by filing
290 a written petition with the Department of Commerce within 21
291 days after the date on which the applicant receives the local
292 government's written denial. The applicant shall provide a copy
293 of the notice of appeal to the local government.

294 (b) Any person whose substantial interests are or may be
295 affected by the local government's approval of a blue ribbon
296 project may request an administrative hearing by filing a
297 written petition with the Department of Commerce pursuant to ss.
298 120.569 and 120.57. The petition must be filed with the
299 Department of Commerce within 21 days after newspaper
300 publication of the notice of the local government decision in



301 accordance with paragraph (7) (d). The petition must clearly
302 state the reasons for the petition and describe how the project
303 will adversely affect the person more substantially than the
304 general population of the geographic area in which the project
305 is located. A copy of the petition must also be provided to the
306 local government. If a petition is timely filed pursuant to this
307 paragraph, the applicant may intervene as a party to the
308 hearing.

309 (c) Before issuing an order on an appeal or petition under
310 this subsection, the Department of Commerce must hold a hearing
311 in accordance with chapter 120.

312 (d) The Department of Commerce shall determine whether the
313 blue ribbon project meets the requirements of this section and
314 issue a final order granting or denying the application. The
315 department may attach conditions and restrictions to the order.
316 The department may provide a determination in the final order
317 which is different from the determination it provided after
318 review of the application under subsection (6).

319 (e) Section 120.595 applies to proceedings brought by a
320 person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the
321 local government's approval of a blue ribbon project under this
322 section.

323 (9) A blue ribbon project must comply with applicable
324 provisions of chapters 373 and 403.

325 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

326 And the title is amended as follows:

327 Delete lines 21 - 51

328 and insert:



330 circumstances; requiring that impact fees be
331 calculated as applicable at the time of issuance of
332 building permits; requiring a landowner to apply to
333 the Department of Commerce for approval of a project
334 in order to initiate approval of a blue ribbon plan;
335 requiring that the application include a blue ribbon
336 plan that meets specified requirements; limiting the
337 scope of the department's review; requiring the
338 department to provide copies of the application to
339 specified entities for certain review and comment;
340 requiring such entities to provide written comments to
341 the department with a specified timeframe; requiring
342 the department to approve the application or provide
343 the applicant with a certain notice within a specified
344 timeframe; providing for automatic approval of a
345 project under certain circumstances; specifying that a
346 project may be located on land with any future land
347 use designation or zoning designation; providing that
348 local government approval of a project creates a
349 certain overlay special district; prohibiting a local
350 government from requiring a comprehensive plan
351 amendment or rezoning for approval of a project;
352 requiring a landowner to apply to the local government
353 for approval of a project upon department approval;
354 requiring a landowner to apply to multiple local
355 governments under certain circumstances; requiring a
356 local government to conduct a certain public workshop
357 within a specified timeframe after receipt of an
358 application; requiring that an applicant be permitted



359 to attend and participate in the workshop; requiring a
360 local government to review a project within a certain
361 timeframe after receipt of an application; limiting
362 the scope of the local government's review; requiring
363 that certain projects be administratively approved;
364 providing that projects approved by the department are
365 presumed to comply with certain provisions; providing
366 that a local government may overcome such presumption
367 in a certain manner; providing for automatic approval
368 of a project under certain circumstances; authorizing
369 applicants to hire private companies to conduct plan
370 reviews and building inspections; requiring an
371 applicant to publish notice of an approved project in
372 a specified manner; requiring an applicant to record
373 the plan for an approved project in the public records
374 of the county in which the project property is
375 located; prohibiting an applicant from amending a
376 recorded plan without undergoing a specified review;
377 limiting the scope of such review; authorizing an
378 applicant to appeal the denial of a project
379 application to the department in a specified manner
380 and within a specified timeframe; authorizing a person
381 whose substantial interests are or may be affected by
382 approval of a project to file a written petition with
383 the department requesting an administrative hearing in
384 a specified manner and within a specified timeframe;
385 providing requirements for such petition; authorizing
386 an applicant to intervene as a party to a hearing
387 under certain circumstances; requiring the department



388 to hold certain hearings before issuing certain
389 orders; requiring the department to determine whether
390 a project meets certain requirements and issue a final
391 order; specifying that the department may provide a
392 different determination in the final order; providing
393 applicability; requiring that a project comply with
394 certain provisions; providing an effective date.

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator McClain

578-01917-26

2026354c1

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to blue ribbon projects; creating s.
 3 163.3249, F.S.; providing a purpose and legislative
 4 intent; defining terms; requiring that a development
 5 project meet certain requirements to qualify as a blue
 6 ribbon project; specifying maximum residential density
 7 and nonresidential intensity permitted within the
 8 development area of a blue ribbon project; requiring
 9 that a specified percentage of the project's
 10 residential units meet certain requirements;
 11 authorizing the development of the development area in
 12 phases for a specified purpose; providing that
 13 development rights and mitigation of project impacts
 14 shall be vested for at least a certain period, which
 15 may be extended under certain circumstances; requiring
 16 that a blue ribbon project have a blue ribbon plan;
 17 providing requirements for such plan; specifying that
 18 a plan is not required to demonstrate certain need;
 19 requiring that a project receive dollar-for-dollar
 20 credits from a local government under certain
 21 circumstances; specifying that a project may be
 22 located on land with any future land use designation
 23 or zoning designation; prohibiting the required
 24 amendment of a comprehensive plan or a required
 25 rezoning for approval of a project; authorizing a
 26 landowner to apply to the local government for
 27 approval of a project; requiring that a project that
 28 meets certain requirements receive administrative
 29 approval; limiting local government review of a

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30 project; providing for the automatic approval of a
 31 project under certain circumstances; authorizing
 32 applicants to hire private companies to conduct plan
 33 reviews and building inspections; requiring an
 34 applicant to publish notice of an approved project in
 35 a specified manner; requiring an applicant to record
 36 the plan for an approved project in the public records
 37 of the county in which the project property is
 38 located; prohibiting an applicant from amending a
 39 recorded plan without undergoing a specified review;
 40 authorizing an applicant to appeal the denial of a
 41 project application to the Department of Commerce in a
 42 specified manner; authorizing a person whose
 43 substantial interests are or may be affected by
 44 approval of a project to file a petition with the
 45 department requesting an administrative hearing in a
 46 specified manner; providing requirements for such
 47 petition; requiring the department to hold certain
 48 hearings before issuing certain orders; requiring the
 49 department to determine whether a project meets
 50 certain requirements and issue a final order;
 51 providing applicability; providing an effective date.
 52

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

54
 55 Section 1. Section 163.3249, Florida Statutes, is created
 56 to read:

57 163.3249 Blue ribbon projects.—
 58 (1) PURPOSE AND INTENT.—The purpose of this section is to

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59 ensure the appropriate use of important state resources and
 60 facilities. It is the intent of the Legislature to accomplish
 61 this goal by incentivizing large landowners in this state to be
 62 good stewards of the natural environment while at the same time
 63 promoting a more sustainable pattern of development. The
 64 Legislature intends to create blue ribbon projects, and to
 65 provide a mechanism by which local governments shall implement
 66 those projects within their boundaries, in order to promote the
 67 goals of preserving natural areas, encouraging agricultural land
 68 uses and rural land stewardship, protecting critical ecological
 69 systems, expanding wildlife corridors, and providing more
 70 compact mixed-use developments designed for long-term viability.

71 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

72 (a) "Applicant" means the owner of land on which a blue
 73 ribbon project is proposed.

74 (b) "Blue ribbon plan" or "plan" means the plan required by
 75 subsection (5).

76 (c) "Blue ribbon project" or "project" means a project that
 77 meets the requirements of subsection (3).

78 (d) "Development area" means land that may be developed
 79 with residential, commercial, industrial, or other uses.

80 (e) "Missing middle housing" means a range of for-sale and
 81 for-rent housing types, including, but not limited to, duplexes,
 82 triplexes, townhomes, small multifamily buildings, and small
 83 detached single-family homes, that fill the gap between larger
 84 single-family homes and larger apartment buildings. Such housing
 85 may be vertically and horizontally integrated.

86 (f) "New urban design" means a development design that
 87 creates walkable, mixed-use, human-centered places.

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88 (g) "Reserve area" means land that is set aside for
 89 environmental conservation, wildlife corridors, wetland and
 90 wildlife mitigation, productive agriculture and silviculture,
 91 uses consistent with the public purposes described under s.
 92 570.71(1), parks, recreational activities, utility sites,
 93 reservoirs and lakes, or other uses that support such
 94 activities.

95 (3) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—A development project must meet
 96 all of the following requirements to qualify as a blue ribbon
 97 project:

98 (a) The project must contain a minimum of 10,000 acres of
 99 land which are contiguous, as defined in s. 163.3163(3)(a), and
 100 which are owned by the same person or by entities owned or
 101 controlled by the same person.

102 (b) At least 60 percent of the land contained in the
 103 project must be reserve area. If any project boundary is
 104 contiguous to state-owned environmental preservation land or the
 105 Florida wildlife corridor, a portion of the project's reserve
 106 area must be located adjacent to the state-owned land or the
 107 Florida wildlife corridor, as applicable.

108 (c) Up to 40 percent of the land contained in the project
 109 may be development area. The development area must meet all of
 110 the following requirements:

111 1. Individual development areas within the project must be
 112 designed to enhance walkability and mobility and must include a
 113 mixture of land uses.

114 2. At least 10 percent of the development area must be
 115 allocated to nonresidential land use.

116 3. A portion of the development area must be allocated to

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117 uses intended to provide economic development and create high-
 118 wage jobs. The development area so allocated must be in a
 119 location that is accessible to an interstate interchange, a
 120 state road, a rail line, or an airport or other transportation
 121 facility.

122 4. The development area must have a dense, walkable, mixed-
 123 use, human-centered development pattern that includes new urban
 124 design, including, but not limited to, towns, villages, and
 125 hamlets that have reserve area between them.

126 5. Types of residential units within the development area
 127 must be varied and include single-family, multifamily, and
 128 attached and detached residential units.

129 (4) DEVELOPMENT AREA DENSITIES AND INTENSITIES.-
 130 (a) A maximum residential density of 12 units per gross
 131 acre, and a maximum nonresidential intensity of 85 percent
 132 impervious surface ratio per gross acre, is permitted within the
 133 development area, as measured in combination throughout all
 134 phases of the project.

135 (b) At least 20 percent of residential units within the
 136 development area in each phase of the project must be a
 137 combination of the following:

138 1. Affordable housing, with initial sale prices and ongoing
 139 rents at or below 80 percent of adjusted gross income, as
 140 defined in s. 420.602, for the county in which the development
 141 area is located.

142 2. Missing middle housing.

143 3. Housing for people eligible for the Florida Hometown
 144 Hero Program under s. 420.5096.

145 (c) The development area may be developed in phases to

Page 5 of 12

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146 accommodate growth projections in the geographical area in which
 147 the project is located. Development rights and mitigation of
 148 project impacts shall be vested for at least 50 years. If the
 149 applicant achieves development as defined in s. 380.04 of at
 150 least 50 percent of the development area within 50 years after
 151 the project's date of initial public dedication of
 152 infrastructure, the vested period must be extended for an
 153 additional 25 years.

154 (5) BLUE RIBBON PLANS.-A blue ribbon project must have a
 155 blue ribbon plan, which is the master development plan for the
 156 project. Blue ribbon plans must include a document that
 157 addresses the requirements of this section and exhibits,
 158 including maps, illustrations, and text supported by data and
 159 analysis, that demonstrate compliance therewith. The plan must
 160 include all of the following:

161 (a) A long-term master development map that, at a minimum,
 162 generally depicts the locations of reserve area and development
 163 area throughout the project area.

164 (b) Identification and analysis of necessary water supplies
 165 and available sources of water, including water resource
 166 development and water supply development projects, and water
 167 conservation measures required to meet the projected demand from
 168 each phase of the project. Water and wastewater facilities must
 169 be provided in compliance with s. 163.3180. Such facilities may
 170 be provided by the applicant, a local unit of special purpose
 171 government, a special district, a local government, or the
 172 state. Local governments are encouraged to enter into public-
 173 private partnerships to accomplish water storage and other water
 174 quality and capacity improvements within the boundaries of blue

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175 ribbon projects pursuant to s. 373.4591.

176 (c) Identification and analysis of the transportation

177 facilities and future transportation corridors necessary to

178 serve development area land uses in the master development plan,

179 including guidelines to be used to establish each modal

180 component intended to optimize mobility. Transportation

181 facilities must be provided in compliance with s. 163.3180. Such

182 facilities may be provided by the applicant, a local unit of

183 special purpose government, a special district, a local

184 government, or the state. Internal roads must be designed in

185 accordance with the Department of Transportation's traditional

186 neighborhood development guidelines provided in chapter 19 of

187 the Manual of Uniform Minimum Standards for Design, Construction

188 and Maintenance for Streets and Highways, 2023 Edition.

189 (d) Identification of other regionally significant public

190 facilities necessary to support the project's permitted density

191 as provided in paragraph (4)(a) for each phase of the project,

192 which facilities must include utilities, parks, and schools, and

193 policies providing the procedures to mitigate the impacts of the

194 project's permitted density on public facilities. Public

195 facilities must be provided in compliance with s. 163.3180. Such

196 facilities may be provided by the applicant, a local unit of

197 special purpose government, a special district, a local

198 government, or the state. Local governments are encouraged to

199 enter into public-private partnerships pursuant to s. 255.065 to

200 provide qualifying public facilities within the boundaries of

201 blue ribbon projects.

202 (e) Identification of regionally significant natural

203 resources within the reserve area based on the best available

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204 data and policies, and provision of mechanisms to ensure the

205 perpetual protection or conservation of specific resources,

206 consistent with the overall conservation and development

207 strategy for the project area.

208 (f) General principles and guidelines that do all of the

209 following:

210 1. Address the land uses within the development area and

211 reserve area, and the interrelationships between such areas.

212 2. Address the protection and, as appropriate, restoration

213 and management of reserve areas identified in the recorded blue

214 ribbon plan for permanent conservation and public use, which

215 must be phased in coordination with the phased development

216 within the development area as specified in the master

217 development plan.

218 3. Achieve a cleaner, healthier environment.

219 4. Limit urban sprawl.

220 5. Provide a range of housing types.

221 6. Protect wildlife and natural areas.

222 7. Advance the efficient use of land and other resources.

223 8. Create quality communities of a design that reduces and

224 captures vehicle trips and promotes mobility options.

225 9. Enhance the prospects for state and local economic

226 development objectives and high-wage job creation.

227 (g) Development standards for each type of land use

228 proposed within the development area which is typically found in

229 a planned unit development as defined in s. 163.3202(5)(b).

230 (h) Provision for an easement granted without charge to the

231 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services under s. 570.71

232 for any portion of the reserve area which will be reserved for

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233 uses consistent with the public purposes provided in s.
 234 570.71(1). The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
 235 and the landowner must enter into an agreement regarding
 236 allowable uses for the easement interest before an easement is
 237 granted. The plan must also include a covenant that any easement
 238 or property granted to another state agency, a water management
 239 district, or a local government will be granted without charge.

240
 241 A blue ribbon plan must be based on a planning period longer
 242 than the generally applicable planning period of the local
 243 comprehensive plan and must specify the projected population
 244 within the planning area during the chosen planning period. A
 245 plan is not required to demonstrate need based on projected
 246 population growth or any other basis. If under the plan a
 247 project contributes land or funds or otherwise causes the
 248 construction of public facilities pursuant to s. 163.3180, the
 249 project must receive dollar-for-dollar credits against impact,
 250 mobility, proportionate share, or other fee credits from the
 251 local government for such facility improvements as required by
 252 s. 163.3180.

253 (6) LOCAL GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW OF BLUE RIBBON
 254 PLANS.—

255 (a) A blue ribbon project may be located on land with any
 256 future land use designation provided in the applicable local
 257 government's comprehensive plan and with any zoning designation
 258 listed in the applicable local government's land development
 259 regulations. A comprehensive plan amendment or rezoning may not
 260 be required for approval of a project.

261 (b) A landowner may apply to the local government for

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262 approval of a blue ribbon project. A project that meets the
 263 requirements of this section must be administratively approved
 264 without further action by the local government or any quasi-
 265 judicial or administrative reviewing body. Local government
 266 review of a project is limited to review for compliance with
 267 this section. If the local government fails to provide written
 268 comments on a project application within 60 days after receipt
 269 of the application, or within 30 days after the applicant files
 270 amended application documents that are responsive to initial
 271 local government review, the application is automatically
 272 approved. At any point after the local government's initial 60-
 273 day review period, the applicant may request a final
 274 determination by the local government, and the local government
 275 must provide the determination within 7 days after receipt of
 276 such request. If the local government fails to provide the
 277 determination within the 7-day period, the application is
 278 automatically approved.

279 (c) Applicants may hire private companies to conduct plan
 280 reviews and building inspections pursuant to s. 553.791.

281 (d) If a blue ribbon project is approved, the applicant
 282 must publish notice of such approval in a newspaper of general
 283 circulation in the area in which the land is located. The notice
 284 must include the local government order number, if any; the
 285 section, township, and range in which the land is located; and a
 286 description of the project. The notice must be published within
 287 14 days after the approval is issued.

288 (e) After a blue ribbon project has been reviewed and
 289 approved, the applicant must record the blue ribbon plan in the
 290 public records of the county in which the project property is

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291 located, and the plan shall run with title to the land. The
 292 applicant may not amend the recorded plan without undergoing
 293 local government review of the plan amendment in accordance with
 294 paragraph (b). Local government review of a plan amendment is
 295 limited to the portions of the plan which are being revised.

296 (7) APPEAL PROCEDURE.—

297 (a) If a local government denies an application for a blue
 298 ribbon project, the applicant may appeal the decision by filing
 299 a written petition with the Department of Commerce within 21
 300 days after the date on which the applicant receives the local
 301 government's written notice of application denial. The applicant
 302 shall provide a copy of the notice of appeal to the local
 303 government.

304 (b) Any person whose substantial interests are or may be
 305 affected by the local government's approval of a blue ribbon
 306 project may request an administrative hearing by filing a
 307 written petition with the Department of Commerce pursuant to ss.
 308 120.569 and 120.57. The petition must be filed with the
 309 Department of Commerce within 21 days after newspaper
 310 publication of the notice of the local government decision in
 311 accordance with paragraph (6)(d). The petition must clearly
 312 state the reasons for the petition and describe how the project
 313 will adversely affect the person more substantially than the
 314 general population of the geographical area in which the project
 315 is located. A copy of the petition must also be provided to the
 316 local government. If a petition is timely filed pursuant to this
 317 subsection, the applicant may intervene as a party to the
 318 hearing.

319 (c) Before issuing an order on an appeal or petition under

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320 this subsection, the Department of Commerce must hold a hearing
 321 in accordance with chapter 120.

322 (d) The Department of Commerce shall determine whether the
 323 blue ribbon project meets the requirements of this section and
 324 issue a final order granting or denying the application. The
 325 department may attach conditions and restrictions to the order.

326 (e) Section 120.595 applies to proceedings brought by a
 327 person whose substantial interests are or may be affected by the
 328 local government's approval of a blue ribbon project under this
 329 section.

330 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Nick DiCeglie, Chair
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic
Development

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: January 23, 2026

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #354**, relating to Blue Ribbon Projects, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stan McQ." followed by a period.

Senator Stan Mcclain
Florida Senate, District 9

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

2/11/26
Meeting Date

Senate TED
Committee

Name Eric Pook

Phone

972-430

Address 100 Monroe

Email

Street

T-11

State

Zip

City

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

Florida Association Counties

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

Approps TTED

Committee

Name

Anna Grace DePavlo

Address

119 S. Monroe St. Suite 200

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 354

Bill Number or Topic

686098

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

828-707-0251

agd@mhdfirm.com

Speaking:



For



Against



Information

OR

Waive Speaking:



In Support



Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

The Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](http://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

354

Meeting Date

ATD

Committee

Name

Bradley Harder

Phone

407 408 7182

Address

2843 Regency Oak Ln

Street

Orlando

FL

32833

City

State

Zip

Email

bradley.harder@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist, representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

0354

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations Committee transportation...

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to

Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name Daniel Martincz

Phone (305) 240-2917

Address 107 E College Ave

Street

Email DMartincz@AFPHQ.org

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Americans for prosperity

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

Approps, Transpn, Tourism, ED
Committee

Name Chadwick Leonard

Address 308 N. Monroe
Street

Tallahassee
City

FL
State

32301
Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB354

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone _____

Email leonard@1000f.org

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

1000 Friends
of Florida.

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flesenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/2026

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

354

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Deliver both copies of this form to

Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Elizabeth Alvi

Phone

850-999-1028

Address

1002 Thomasville Road

Email

bethalvi@audubon.org

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32308

City

State

Zip

Speaking:

For

 Against

Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Audubon Florida

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) flsenate.gov

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

2/12/26

Meeting Date

ATD

Committee

Name Bradley Harder

Address 2843 Roger Oak Ln

Street

Orlando

City

FL

State

32833

Zip

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

354

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone 407 408 7192

Email bradley.harder@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information**OR** Waive Speaking: In Support Against**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:** I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, 2020-2022JointRules.pdf flsenate.gov

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 4

Sponsor: McClain

Subject: Blue Ribbon Projects

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: CS/SB 354

Final Action: Favorable with Committee Substitute

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
RE=Replaced by Engrossed Amendment
RS=Replaced by Substitute Amendment

TP=Temporarily Postponed
VA=Vote After Roll Call
VC=Vote Change After Roll Call

WD=Withdrawn
OO=Out of Order
AV=Abstain from Voting

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 4

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: McClain

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Blue Ribbon Projects

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: CS/SB 354

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WD=Withdrawn
OO=Out of Order
AV=Abstain from Voting

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

BILL: SB 1112

INTRODUCER: Senator Garcia

SUBJECT: Labor Pool Act

DATE: February 11, 2026 **REVISED:** _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. <u>Dike</u>	<u>McKay</u>	<u>CM</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2. <u>Griffin</u>	<u>Nortelus</u>	<u>ATD</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3. _____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____

I. Summary:

SB 1112 amends the Florida Labor Pool Act, part II of chapter 448, F.S., by:

- Prohibiting labor pools from charging third-party users a placement fee if a third-party user directly employs a laborer for work;
- Requiring labor pools in the state to register annually with the Department of Commerce (department); and
- Allowing courts to award attorney fees and costs to the prevailing party for legal proceedings brought under the Labor Pool Act.

The bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on private and governmental sectors. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Labor Pool Act

Florida's Labor Pool Act (the act), ss. 448.20-448.26, F.S., provides for the health, safety, and well-being of day laborers throughout the state and outlines uniform standards of conduct and practice for labor pools. Under the act, a labor pool is defined as a "business entity"¹ that operates a labor hall² by one or more of the following methods:

¹ "Business entity" means any individual, corporation, business partnership, firm, institution, or association. Section 448.22(4), F.S.

² "Labor hall" means a central location maintained by a labor pool where day laborers assemble and are dispatched to work for a third-party user. Section 448.22(3), F.S.

- Contracting with third-party users³ to supply day laborers⁴ to them on a temporary basis.
- Hiring, employing, recruiting, or contracting with workers to fulfill these temporary labor contracts for day labor.
- Fulfilling any contracts for day labor in accordance with this subsection, even if the entity also conducts other business.”⁵

Exceptions

The act does not apply to the following types of businesses:

- Business entities duly registered as farm labor contractors pursuant to part III of ch. 450, F.S.;
- Employee leasing companies,⁶ as defined in s. 468.520, F.S.;
- Temporary help services engaged in supplying solely white-collar employees, secretarial employees, clerical employees, or skilled laborers;
- Labor union hiring halls; or
- Labor bureau or employment offices operated by a business entity for the sole purpose of employing an individual for its own use.⁷

Prohibitions

The act prohibits labor pools from all of the following:

- Charging a day laborer:
 - For safety equipment, clothing, accessories, or any other items required by the nature of the work;
 - More than a reasonable amount to transport a worker to or from the designated worksite; or
 - For directly or indirectly cashing a worker’s check.
- Requesting or requiring that any day laborer sign any document waiving statutory protections.
- Charging more than the actual cost of providing lunch, if the labor pool provides lunch at the worksite.
- Restricting a day laborer’s right to accept a permanent position with a third-party user to whom the laborer is referred for temporary work, or to restrict the right of a third-party user to offer employment to an employee of the labor pool.⁸

Requirements

The act requires labor pools to do all of the following:

- Provide the following facilities for a worker waiting at a labor hall for a job assignment:

³ “Third-party user” means a business entity that uses the services of a day laborer provided by a labor pool. Section 448.22(5), F.S.

⁴ “Day labor” means temporary labor or employment that is occasional or irregular for which the worker is employed for not longer than the time period required to complete the temporary assignment for which the individual worker was hired, although an individual may be eligible for additional temporary assignments when available. Section 448.22(2), F.S.

⁵ Section 448.22(1), F.S.

⁶ “Employee Leasing Company” means a sole proprietorship, partnership, corporation, or other form of business entity engaged in employee leasing.

⁷ Section 448.23, F.S.

⁸ Section 448.24, F.S.

- Restroom facilities;
- Drinking water; and
- Sufficient seating.
- Select one of the following methods to pay a day laborer for work performed:
 - Cash;
 - Commonly accepted negotiable instruments that are payable in cash, on demand at a financial institution, and without discount;
 - Payroll debit card; or
 - Electronic fund transfer.
- Notify a day laborer of the payment method that the labor pool intends to use and the day laborer's options to elect a different payment method.
- If selecting to pay a day laborer by payroll debit card:
 - Offer the day laborer the option to elect payment by electronic fund transfer; and
 - Provide the day laborer with a list, including the address, of a nearby business that does not charge a fee to withdraw the debit card's contents.
- Compensate day laborers at or above the minimum wage.⁹
- Comply with the Workers' Compensation Law in ch. 440, F.S.
- Insure any motor vehicle owned or operated by the labor pool and used for worker transportation.
- Furnish each worker with a written itemized statement showing in detail each wage deduction.
- Give each worker an annual earnings statement summary.¹⁰

Remedies

Under the act, any worker affected by a violation of the provisions relating to labor pool duties and obligations may file a lawsuit against the labor pool. In any such lawsuit, the worker is required to give the labor pool a reasonable opportunity to cure the alleged violation within 60 days. Workers are authorized to recover actual and consequential damages, or \$1,000, whichever is greater, for each violation, and costs. The legal remedy:

- Must be filed within 1 year after the date the notice of an alleged violation is served; and
- Is exclusive and prohibits the worker from pursuing any other available legal remedy.¹¹

Registration of Businesses

Business entities that seek to operate and transact business in Florida must first register with the Department of State (DOS). Such entities may register as a Limited Liability Company,¹² a Corporation,¹³ or a Limited Partnership.¹⁴ Typically, this registration includes the name of the business, the street and mailing address of the designated/principal office and registered agent,

⁹ As of September 2025, the Florida minimum wage is \$14.00 per hour. U.S. DEPT. OF LABOR, *State Minimum Wage Laws*, available at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/minimum-wage/state> (last visited Jan. 27, 2026).

¹⁰ Section 448.24, F.S.

¹¹ Section 448.25, F.S.

¹² See s. 605.0201, F.S.

¹³ See s. 607.0202, F.S.

¹⁴ See s. 620.1201, F.S.

and information about the partners/incorporators/managers/members.¹⁵ As labor pools are business entities, they must comply with relevant statutory requirements for registration and annual filing with the DOS. If a business fails to register with the DOS, either the Department of Legal Affairs or the Attorney General, depending on the type of business entity, may bring legal action to prevent the company from transacting business in Florida.¹⁶

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 448.24, F.S., to prohibit labor pools from charging a placement fee when a third-party user directly hires a laborer for work.

The bill requires labor pools located, operating, or transacting business in Florida to register annually with the department. The bill gives the department rulemaking authority to implement this requirement.

Lastly, the bill allows courts to award attorney fees and costs to the winning party of a legal proceeding brought for a violation of the act.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

¹⁵ See ss. 605.0201, 607.0202, 620.1201, F.S.

¹⁶ See ss. 605.0913, 607.1523, 620.1908, F.S.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Indeterminate. If more third-party users directly hire workers, then labor pools may see reduced funds due to fewer placement fees.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The department may have increased expenditures to register labor pools. However, such expenditures can be absorbed within existing resources.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 448.24 and 448.25.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

By Senator Garcia

36-00659A-26

20261112

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

14 Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 448.24, Florida
15 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (8) is added to that
16 section, to read:

17 448.24 Duties and rights.—

18 (6) A No labor pool may not shall restrict the right of a
19 day laborer to accept a permanent position with a third-party
20 user to whom the laborer is referred for temporary work, or to
21 restrict the right of such a third-party user to offer such
22 employment to an employee of the labor pool. If a third-party
23 user directly employs a laborer for work, a labor pool may not
24 charge the third-party user a placement fee However, nothing
25 shall restrict the labor pool from receiving a reasonable
26 placement fee from the third-party user.

(8) A labor pool that is located, operates, or transacts business in this state shall register annually with the Department of Commerce. The department may adopt rules to

Page 1 of 2

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

36-00659A-26

implement this subsection.

Section 2. Subsection (4) is added to section 448.25, Florida Statutes, to read:

448.25 Remedies; damages; costs.—
(4) In addition to any damages awarded for an action brought pursuant to this section, the court shall award reasonable attorney fees and costs to the prevailing party.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Page 2 of 2

CODING: Words ~~strieken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.



The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Nick DiCeglie, Chair
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic
Development

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: January 28, 2026

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #1112**, relating to Labor Pool Act, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ileana Garcia".

Senator Ileana Garcia
Florida Senate, District 36

The Florida Senate

#2-12-26

APPEARANCE RECORD

JB 1112

Meeting Date

Deliver both copies of this form to

App trans, Tourism Econ

Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Name

Martha Shunn King

Phone

202-258-2173

Address

4022 Wintrop St

Email

apwumanatee
 @aol.com

Street

Scarsot

Fl

34232

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) ([flsenate.gov](#))

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/2026

Meeting Date

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Appropriation Committee on
Transportation, Tourism & Economic Development

Committee

Name

Calvin Stewart

Address

11050 SW 224 St

Street

Miami

City

FL

State

33170

Zip

Phone

786-234-5785

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Email

cstewart129@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) /flsenate.gov

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2/12/2026

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

Transportation / Tourism
etc.
Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name Diane North

Phone 954-849-9959

Address 3773 Woodbriar Dr
Street

Email nesa450@aol.com

Orange Pk FL 32073
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, 2020-2022 Joint Rules, flsenate.gov.

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/2026

Meeting Date
Transportation

Committee
DONALD DIEJUSTE

Name
27416 Lantana RD Apt #407

Address
Street
Lake Worth

City
FL

State
33462

Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

(561) 727-7650

Phone

Email

DiejusteDonald25@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) ([flsenate.gov](#))

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

12 FEB 2020

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 112

Bill Number or Topic

S APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

~~TRANSPORTATION~~ COMMITTEE ~~TOURISM~~ ECON DEV

Name

KIM SMITH

Phone

813 335-8694

Address

7024 GLENVIEW DR

Email

Street

TAMPA

FL

33619

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

2/12/26

Meeting Date

Appropriations, Transportation

Committee

Name Belinda Davis

Phone

561 702-7092

Address 315 N.W. 3rd Ave

Street

Delray Beach FL 33444

City

State

Zip

Email

Johnnybelindabu@gmail

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, 2020-2022JointRules.pdf, flsenate.gov

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2-12-2026

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appr Com on Trans, Tourism

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Christopher Stovall

Phone 904-536-2547

Address 7619 Ortega Bluff Pkwy

Email

Street

Jacksonville

FL

32244

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2-12-2026

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Meeting Date

Appropriation Committee

Committee

Name

Andre Brown

Phone

Address

19031 N.W. 70th.

Street

Miami, Garden FL

City

State

33169

Zip

Email

andrebrown1964@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD2/12/26

Meeting Date

App Comde Transp. Tourism

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meetingSB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Name Belinda RiffenburgPhone 813-712-0849Address 909 Bolayne Ridge Circle
Street

Email _____

Tampa, FL 33619
City State ZipSpeaking: For Against Information**OR**Waive Speaking: In Support Against**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:** I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf).

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

12 Feb 26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appr. Cmte, Transp, Tourism
Committee Econ. Dev.Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Reese Howell

Phone 757 717 0171

Address PO Box 465

Street

Email 757

Riverview

FL

33509

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.leg.state.fl.us/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

02/12/2026

Meeting Date

Appropriations Committee of the Florida Senate

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Name

James E. Birkline Jr.

Phone

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Address

3011 N.W. 186 Ter

Email

Street

Mirrored Gardens A

State

3305

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](http://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) flsenate.gov

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

ATD

Committee

Name

RICHARD JONES

Address

25397 Kowloon Ln

Street

PUNTA Gorda FL

City

State

33983

Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

941 628 0813

Phone

RJones@DC78.ORG

Email

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2-12-26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appro

Committee

Deliver both copies of this form to
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Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jennifer Kenny

Phone 321-277-9385

Address 2700 N. Highway Alt #18-103

Email JKrn606@yahoo.com

Street

Indialantic

FL.
State

32903
Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2-12-26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations

Committee

Name Lorraine Rendon

Phone 321-704-3930

Address 879 Yorktowne Dr
Street

Email

Rockledge FL 32955
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2-12-26

Meeting Date

APPROPRIATIONS

Committee

Name FERNANOO

RENDOON

Phone

321-482-3051

Address 879 YRRKTOWNE DR.

Street

Email

ROCKLEDGE

City

FL

State

32955

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) flsenate.gov

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

Approp Transportation
Senate Committee

Name Karen Woodard

Address 579 E. Call St.
Street

Tallahassee, FL
City State Zip

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

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Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

850-321-9386

Email fcfepl@yahoo.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:
✓ FL Center for Fiscal
✓ Economic Policy

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf.flsenate.gov](http://flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

App Comm on Transp

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Shawnrel Jackson

Phone

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

7862175363

Name

15453 N.B. 6th CB19

Email

Shawnrelj12@gmail.com

Address

Street

MIAMI, FL

City

State

33162

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:



I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.



I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:



I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2/12/26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations on Trans., tourism,
Committee Econ. Dev.

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jessica Mahoney

Phone 561-758-4654

Address 1788 Apple Blossom Lane
Street

Email jessica.stone.2014@gmail.com

West Palm Beach, FL 33415

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) (flsenate.gov)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2/12/26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

J112

Bill Number or Topic

Appr. Comm on Trans, Tourism
+ Ecu DevDeliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name

Jodi Mochel

Phone

Address

1236 Hillsboro Mile

Street

Hillsboro Beach

State

33062

Zip

Email

jodim69@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) flsenate.gov

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2/2/26

Meeting Date

Trans. Tourism

Committee

APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Dr. Rich Tempkin Phone 850-224-6928

Address 135 S. Monroe Email _____
Street

Tallahassee FL 32304
City State Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Florida AFL-CIO

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2/12/2026

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations on Transportation,

Committee

Tourism and Economic Development

Name

JEAN TUFFET

Phone

786 290 5181

Address 1951 NW 7th Avenue Suite 300
Street

Email jean@beyondTHEBars.org

Miami, FL 33136
City State ZipSpeaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

2/12/26

Meeting Date

Appropriations

Transi, Tourism, Econ Developmnt

Committee

Mona Stafford

Please bring both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1112

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name

Phone

Address

PO Box 1005

Street

Lacoochee

FL

33537

City

State

Zip

Email

Staffordm98@outlook.
comSpeaking: For Against Information**OR**

Waive Speaking:



In Support

 Against**PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

02/12/26

Meeting Date

Appr Common transit

Committee tourism and econ dev

112

Bill Number or Topic

Name Jason Taché

Phone

9545523736

Address 861 nw 85th terrace

Street

Plantation

FL

33324

City

State

Zip

Email tache041@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

 I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship. I am a registered lobbyist, representing: I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

2/12/2026

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

1112

Bill Number or Topic

App Comm on Trans,
Committee on Tour & Econ. Dev.
Ginger BlomeleyDeliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name

Phone

Address

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Street

Email

City

State

Zip

ginger@
theblomeleys.comSpeaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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representing:I am not a lobbyist, but received
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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Feb 12 2026

Meeting Date

S Approp Cmte on Transp
Committee Tourism + ECO Dev

Name Felicia Bruce

Deliver both copies of this form to

Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Phone 772 409 4560

Address 106 Mariner Bay Blvd

Street

Ft Pierce FL 34949

City

State

Zip

Email spmomtch1@aol.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

02/12/26

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations on Transportation, Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Committee

Tourism and Economic Development

Name

CHAYTON LEE Blackford

Phone

5619803569

Address

10.000 BAHAMA Dr

Email

N/A

Street

Miami,

State

Fl

Zip

33189

City

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate

02-12-2026

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1112

Bill Number or Topic

Appropriations Committee on transportation
tourism, and Committee economic development

Name Alfredo Patino

Phone

305-376-1629

Address 4573 Louvinia Ct

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32311

City

State

Zip

Email

al.patino.ap@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 5

Sponsor: Garcia

Subject: Labor Pool Act

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: SB 1112

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
RE=Replaced by Engrossed Amendment
RS=Replaced by Substitute Amendment

TP=Temporarily Postponed
VA=Vote After Roll Call
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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 5

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Garcia

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Labor Pool Act

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: SB 1112

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
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The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

BILL: **SB 1192**

INTRODUCER: Senators Polsky and Arrington

SUBJECT: Customer Service Callback Queues

DATE: February 11, 2026 REVISED: _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. <u>White</u>	<u>McVaney</u>	<u>GO</u>	Favorable
2. <u>Griffin</u>	<u>Nortelus</u>	<u>ATD</u>	Favorable
3. _____	_____	<u>AP</u>	_____

I. Summary:

SB 1192 amends the Florida Customer Service Standards Act to create a pilot program for callback queues. Under the pilot program, the Department of Commerce and the Department of Children and Families must use a telephone system for certain calls. Under the program, a customer will have the option to be placed in a callback queue to receive a call at a later designated time, while maintaining his or her place in line, as opposed to waiting on hold. On or before December 31, 2027, any department that participates in the program must submit a report on the effectiveness of the pilot program, any suggested changes to the program, and a recommendation as to whether the program should be continued. The report is submitted to the President of the Senate and Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Government entities participating in the pilot program that currently do not have a system in place for callback queues will likely incur costs to the extent the entity will have to update its system with the required features. The Department of Commerce currently employs a callback queue system, which costs the department \$329,940 annually. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Florida Customer Service Standards Act

The Florida Customer Service Standards Act (Act) directs executive branch agencies and the Public Service Commission to practice and employ certain measures to improve customer service.¹ For purposes of this Act, a “customer” means any person who uses or requests services

¹ Section 23.30, F.S.

or information provided by a state executive agency or who is required by statute to interact with the agency.² The measures include:

- Designating an employee or employees to facilitate the resolution of customer complaints and developing a process for review by upper-level management for customer complaints not resolved by the designated employees.
- Promptly providing available information and accurate responses to questions and requests for assistance.
- Acknowledging receipt of a telephonic or electronic question or request by the end of the next business day.
- Providing local or toll-free telephonic or electronic access either through a centralized complaint-intake call center or directly to a departmental employee or employees designated to resolve customer complaints.
- Developing customer satisfaction measures and systems for tracking complaints and resolutions.
- Providing annual reports showing statistical data on customer complaints, resolutions, and satisfaction.
- Including in strategic plans a program outline or goal for customer service.
- Conducting interdepartmental discussions on methods of improving customer service.³

The Act requires each state agency to comply with its presently-available resources but does not apply penalties for an agency's failure to comply.⁴

Voice Mail Systems

There is no statutory requirement for state agencies to employ a voice mail system or a telephone menu options system. If an entity uses a telephone menu options, however, it must provide the caller with access to a nonelectronic attendant.⁵ Moreover, state employees must answer the phone—as opposed to relying on voice mail systems—when the employee is at his or her regularly assigned work station, unless (a) the telephone is in use, (b) the voice mail system provides the caller with access to a nonelectronic attendant, or (c) the voice mail system automatically transfers the call to a nonelectronic attendant.⁶

The agency head is required to ensure compliance with these provisions.⁷

For purposes of these requirements, the term “state agency” includes executive and judicial branch entities of the state.⁸ It does not include the Public Service Commission.

The level of compliance by state agencies is unknown.

² Section 20.30(3)(a), F.S.

³ Section 23.30(4), F.S.

⁴ Section 23.30(6), (7), F.S.

⁵ Section 110.1082(2), F.S.

⁶ Section 110.1082(1), F.S.

⁷ Section 110.1082(3), F.S.

⁸ Section 110.107(30), F.S.

Current Callback Queue System Used by the Department of Commerce

In July 2024, the Department of Commerce implemented a “Mindful Virtual Hold/Callback” system for the Reemployment Assistance program. This system allows claimants to request a callback rather than remain on hold while waiting to speak to a representative. Approximately 60-65 percent of eligible calls choose to use this option when it is available. The Department of Commerce stated that the system resulted in “substantial improvement in claimant access and system efficiency.” In particular, the Department cited an average wait time of 31 minutes and 26 seconds, a “measurable improvement in customer service” when compared to the previous wait time of up to 90 minutes.

The Department currently absorbs the costs of this system in its current budget.⁹

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 establishes a pilot program under the Florida Customer Service Standards Act to determine the effectiveness of state agency use of a callback queue. The term “callback queue” is defined to mean “a system that allows a caller to leave a telephone number at which he or she can be reached at a later time rather than receiving no answer to his or her call or remaining on hold.”

Under the pilot program, the Department of Commerce must use a callback queue for calls from claimants concerning reemployment assistance, and the Department of Children and Families must use a callback queue for calls concerning public benefits and services.

Calls must be returned in the order in which they were received and by the end of the next business day.

On or before December 31, 2027, any department that participates in the pilot program must submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The report must include information on the effectiveness of the pilot program, any suggested changes to the program, and a recommendation as to whether the program should be continued or expanded.

Section 2 provides that this act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

Not applicable. The bill does not require counties or municipalities to take an action requiring the expenditure of funds, reduce the authority that counties or municipalities have to raise revenue in the aggregate, or reduce the percentage of state tax shared with counties or municipalities.

⁹ Dep’t of Commerce, *SB 1192 Agency Analysis* (Feb. 1, 2026) (on file with Senate Committee on Governmental Oversight and Accountability).

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None identified.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None identified.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None identified.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None identified.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None identified.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Commerce indicated that it currently contracts with a vendor to provide a callback queue system; the contract costs the department \$329,940 annually.¹⁰ The Department of Children and Families, to the extent it does not currently have a system providing callback queue services, may incur similar costs. The Department of Commerce was able to absorb these costs within its existing budget; it is unclear if the Department of Children and Families is able to do the same.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

The current language at lines 26-29 may be unclear. This part of the bill directs the Department of Commerce to utilize the callback queue for “calls from claimants concerning reemployment assistance;” and the Department of Children and Families for “calls concerning public benefits.” It is difficult for an agency, prior to answering the call, to determine who a caller is and why he or she is calling. Accordingly, it is difficult for a department participating in the pilot program to know whether an incoming call falls within the purview of the pilot program, thereby being entitled to a callback queue. To ease the administration of the pilot program, the Legislature may wish to specify particular phone lines to be part of the pilot program. For instance, the Department of Commerce currently has callback queue system for the Reemployment Assistance

¹⁰ *Id.*

Program and the Department of Children and Families has a “Public Benefit and Services” phone number.

In the alternative, if the Legislature does not indicate the specific phone lines included in the pilot program, it may wish to provide that the bill applies exclusively to call-centers and customer service lines, as opposed to all employee’s private office lines.

VII. Related Issues:

The Department of Commerce currently uses a callback queue system. The department, however, is not currently required to submit the report on the program required in the bill or to return calls within the timeframe required in the bill (within one business day after receiving the phone call). The department indicates it generally currently returns calls within the time frame required in the bill (an average wait time of 31 minutes and 26 seconds).

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends section 23.30 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill’s introducer or the Florida Senate.

By Senator Polsky

30-01016B-26

20261192

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

14 Section 1. Present subsections (5) through (8) of section
15 23.30, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)
16 through (9), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to
17 that section, to read:

18 23.30 Florida Customer Service Standards Act.—

19 (5) PILOT PROGRAMS.—

20 (a) As used in this subsection, the term "callback queue"
21 means a system that allows a caller to leave a telephone number
22 at which he or she can be reached at a later time rather than
23 receiving no answer to his or her call or remaining on hold.

24 (b) A pilot program is implemented to require a callback
25 queue to be used:

26 1. By the Department of Commerce in returning calls from
27 claimants concerning reemployment assistance.

28 2. By the Department of Children and Families in returning
29 calls concerning public benefits and services.

Page 1 of 2

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

30-01016B-26

20261192

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

Page 2 of 2

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



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:

Appropriations on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development, *Vice Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations on Criminal and Civil Justice
Environment and Natural Resources
Ethics and Elections
Governmental Oversight and Accountability
Judiciary

SELECT COMMITTEE:

Joint Select Committee on Collective Bargaining

SENATOR TINA SCOTT POLSKY

30th District

February 3, 2026

Chairman Nick DiCeglie
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
201 The Capitol
404 S. Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

Chairman DiCeglie,

I respectfully request that you place SB 1192 Customer Service Callback Queues on the agenda of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development, at your earliest convenience.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me or my office. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kindest Regards,

Senator Tina S. Polsky
Florida Senate, District 30

cc: Sarah Nortelus, Staff Director
Brooke Conlan, Administrative Assistant

REPLY TO:
 5301 North Federal Highway, Suite 135, Boca Raton, Florida 33487 (561) 443-8170
 220 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5030

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 6

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Polsky

Time: 2:30-4:00 p.m.

Subject: Customer Service Callback Queues

Time: 2.30—4.00 p.m.

Bill #: SB 1192

Bill #: SB 1192

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

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The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 6

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Polsky

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Customer Service Callback Queues

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: SB 1192

Final Action: Favorable

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The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

BILL: CS/CS/SB 1220

INTRODUCER: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development, Transportation Committee and Senator Massullo

SUBJECT: Transportation

DATE: February 16, 2026 **REVISED:** _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. Johnson	Vickers	TR	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2. Griffin	Nortelus	ATD	<u>Fav/CS</u>
3. _____	_____	AP	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/CS/SB 1220 addresses a range of issues related to transportation. Specifically, the bill:

- Requires the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to update its prioritization of regionally significant trails after the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) submits its triennial report on the Shared-Use Nonmotorized (SUN) Trail program.
- Authorizes the use of additional surface materials on SUNTrail facilities and allows the FDOT to consider sponsorship agreements in prioritizing SUNTrail projects.
- Requires strategic plans for seaports and commercial service airports to provide strategies for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources.
- Requires the FDOT to identify and prioritize key maritime components in the state's supply chain to strengthen and expand the state's maritime industrial base.
- Authorizes personal delivery devices to operate on bike lanes, bike paths, and road shoulders, except on limited access facilities.
- Prohibits counties and municipalities from enacting operating fees or restrictions on commercial advertising on personal delivery devices.
- Repeals statutory authority regarding the development and use of digital driver licenses and identification cards.
- Provides that a local government may not withhold land use approval of a drone delivery service located on a commercial property.

- Provides that the presence of a drone delivery service in a commercial property's parking lot does not reduce the number of parking spaces in the lot for the purpose of meeting minimum parking requirements.
- Requires the FDOT to direct investments in the state's aviation system to facilitate efficiency and to improve passenger experiences and the efficiency of the supply chain.
- Authorizes the FDOT to coordinate with commercial service airports to review and evaluate Transportation Security Administration policies and programs to improve airport efficiency.
- Defines the term "advanced air mobility corridor connection point" and incorporates that term into the definition of the term "transportation corridor."
- Authorizes the FDOT to purchase promotional items related to transportation-related economic development opportunities and advanced air mobility.
- Expands the FDOT's authority regarding research facilities and contracting authority to conduct research.
- Authorizes the FDOT to require local governments to submit applications for federal transportation funding and approve local requests for federal funding for state-owned transportation facilities.
- Authorizes the FDOT to coordinate with and provide assistance to local governments to develop and review local applications for federal funding to ensure that each project receiving federal funds is consistent with FDOT's mission, goals, and objectives.
- Authorizes the FDOT to acquire, own, operate or construct airports to support advanced air mobility.
- Provides that the FDOT is the lead agency for the coordination and procurement of LiDAR mapping systems.
- Increases the percentage of turnpike tolls collected in Palm Beach, Broward, and Miami-Dade counties that are programmed for turnpike projects in those counties.
- Clarifies that certain provisions required for contracts between FDOT and paratransit providers only apply to entities providing paratransit services to persons with disabilities.
- Provides that shooting into an occupied or unoccupied autonomous vehicle is a felony of the second degree.
- Provides that willful or malicious defacement, injury, or damage to an autonomous vehicle, where damage is greater than \$200, is a felony of the third degree.
- Requires the FDOT to study the impact of alternative fuel vehicles on state transportation revenues and evaluate revenue models to address this impact.
- Provides a \$300,000 appropriation for the FDOT study.

This bill will have an indeterminate fiscal impact on private and governmental entities. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

This bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

For ease of organization and readability, the present situation is discussed below with the effect of proposed changes.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

SUNTrail/Greenways and Trails System (Sections 1 and 20)

Present Situation

Managed by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Florida Greenways and Trails System is a statewide system of greenways and trails.¹ The Florida Greenways and Trails Council advises the DEP regarding this system, including making recommendations for prioritizing the funding of regionally significant trails.²

Part of the Greenways and Trails System, the Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail (SUNTrail) Network provides nonmotorized transportation opportunities for bicyclists and pedestrians. SUNTrail trails must be physically separated from motor vehicle traffic and constructed with asphalt, concrete, or another hard surface.³

The FDOT must annually allocate at least \$50 million for SUNTrail⁴ and prioritize funding for projects that:

- Are recommended as priorities by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council as regionally significant trails.⁵
- Have national, statewide, or regional importance.
- Are otherwise identified by the Florida Greenways and Trails Council as a priority for critical linkage and trail connectedness within the Florida Greenways and Trails System.
- Facilitate an interconnected system of trails by completing gaps between existing trails.
- Support the transportation needs of bicyclists and pedestrians.⁶

The FDOT and local governments are authorized to enter into sponsorship agreements for commercial sponsorship displays on multiuse trails and related facilities. The FDOT or the local government that administers the sponsorship agreement must use sponsorship revenues for maintenance, signage, and amenities on the trails and related facilities.⁷

By June 30, 2026, and every three years thereafter, the FDOT must submit a status report on the SUNTrail network to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.⁸ The FDOT's report may include legislative recommendations and must include statistical information regarding the trails and expenditures associated with the network. The FDOT must also provide information regarding trail usage.⁹

¹ Section 260.14, F.S. The Florida Greenways and Trails System is codified in ch. 260, F.S.

² Section 260.0142, F.S.

³ Section 339.81(2), F.S.

⁴ Section 339.81(5)(a), F.S. These funds are distributed from the initial application for a motor vehicle registration. *See* s. 320.072(4)(a), F.S.

⁵ This is pursuant to s. 260.0142(4)(c), F.S.

⁶ Section 339.81(5)(b), F.S.

⁷ Section 339.81(7)(a), F.S.

⁸ This report is in coordination with the Department of Environmental Protection.

⁹ Section 339.81(8), F.S.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 260.0142, F.S., to require the Florida Greenways and Trails Council to meet within 90 days after FDOT submits its triennial SUNTrail report. The purpose of this meeting is to reprioritize regionally significant trails within the SUNTrail network.

The bill amends s. 339.81, F.S., to authorize SUNTrail facilities to be constructed with any FDOT-approved improved hard surface. The bill also authorizes the FDOT, in prioritizing SUNTrail projects, to consider the existence of sponsorship agreements.

Seaport Strategic Plans (Section 2)

Present Situation

Florida's seaports include Jacksonville, Port Canaveral, Port Citrus, Fort Pierce, Palm Beach, Port Everglades, Miami, Port Manatee, St. Petersburg, Putnam County, Tampa, Port St. Joe, Panama City, Pensacola, Key West, and Fernandina.¹⁰

Each seaport must develop a 10-year strategic plan, containing:

- An economic development component;
- An infrastructure development and improvement component;
- A component identifying all available and potential intermodal transportation facilities;
- A component identifying physical, environmental, and regulatory barriers; and
- An intergovernmental coordination component.¹¹

The plan's infrastructure development and improvement component must identify all projected infrastructure improvements within the plan area which require improvement, expansion, or development in order for the seaport to attain a strategic advantage for competition with national and international competitors.¹²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 311.14, F.S., to require each seaport master plan's infrastructure development and improvement component to contain strategies for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the port and its tenants. Such strategies must include long-term contracts, rights-of-first refusal regarding the sale or lease of property storing such resources, and contingency plans for obtaining such resources.

The bill defines the term "critical infrastructure resources," to include, but not be limited to, access to electricity, fuel, and water resources.

¹⁰ Section 311.09(1), F.S.

¹¹ Section 311.14(2), F.S.

¹² Section 311.14(2)(b), F.S.

Florida Seaport Maritime Industrial Base (Section 3)

Present Situation

On April 9, 2025, President Trump issued an executive order on Restoring America's Maritime Dominance. The executive order provides that it is the policy of the United States to revitalize and rebuild domestic maritime industries and workforce to promote national security and economic prosperity. The executive order requires a Maritime Action Plan and requires an assessment of ways to expand the Maritime Industrial Base, including, but is not limited to, investment and expansion of commercial and defense shipbuilding capabilities, component supply chains, ship repair and marine transportation capabilities, port infrastructure, and the adjacent workforce.¹³

Florida's seaports currently support nearly 1.2 million jobs, contribute over \$195 billion in total economic value. This represents 12.2 percent of Florida's GDP.¹⁴

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates s. 311.26, F.S., to require the FDOT to coordinate with the Florida Department of Commerce, seaports, and the Federal Government to identify and prioritize key maritime components in the supply chain that are essential to strengthening and expanding Florida's maritime industrial base. Seaports must support projects prioritized by the FDOT that directly support the building and construction, maintenance, and modernization of both commercial vessels, including cargo vessels, and vessels designed for national defense. The FDOT must evaluate projects by their estimated return on invested capital, job creation, and contribution to the state's and the United States' economic competitiveness and national security interests. Additional consideration must include the project's anticipated enhancement of Florida's commercial maritime capabilities.

Personal Delivery Devices and Mobile Carriers (Sections 4-6)

Present Situation

Florida law defines the term "personal delivery device" (PDD) to mean an electrically powered device that:

- Is operated on sidewalks and crosswalks and intended primarily for transporting property;
- Has a weight that does not exceed the maximum weight established by the FDOT rule;
- Has a maximum speed of 10 miles per hour; and
- Is equipped with technology to allow for operation of the device with or without the active control or monitoring of a natural person.

A PDD is not considered a vehicle unless expressly defined by law as a vehicle. A mobile carrier is not considered a PDD. The FDOT may adopt rules to implement this provision.¹⁵

¹³ Executive Order on Restoring America's Maritime Dominance, available at: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/04/restoring-americas-maritime-dominance/> (last visited January 22, 2026).

¹⁴ Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council, *Seaport Mission Plan 2025-2029*; p. 7. https://ftp.fdot.gov/public/file/tulxiv1wnk-glamtfkz5mg/2025_2029_5-Year_Florida_Seaport_Mission_Plan.pdf (last visited January 28, 2026).

¹⁵ Section 316.003(59), F.S. FDOT currently does not have rules regarding the use PDDs.

A PDD may be operated on sidewalks and crosswalks within a county or municipality when permitted by federal law. This does not restrict a county or municipality from adopting regulations for the safe operation of PDDs.¹⁶ A PDD operating on a sidewalk or crosswalk has the same rights and duties as a pedestrian, except that a PDD may not unreasonably interfere with pedestrians or traffic. A PDD must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians on the sidewalk or crosswalk.¹⁷

A PDD must have a plate or marker with a unique identifying device number and identify the name and contact information of the PDD's operator.¹⁸ A PDD may not:

- Operate on a public highway except to the extent necessary to cross a crosswalk.
- Operate on a sidewalk or crosswalk unless its operator is actively controlling or monitoring its navigation and operation.
- Transport hazardous materials.¹⁹

A person who owns and operates a PDD is required to maintain an insurance policy that provides general liability coverage of at least \$100,000.²⁰

At least one municipality has adopted an ordinance requiring PDDs to be registered with the municipality and obtain an operating permit. The ordinance also prohibits commercial advertising displays on PDDs and mobile carriers.²¹

A mobile carrier is defined as an electrically powered device that:

- Is operated on sidewalks and crosswalks and is intended primarily for transporting property;
- Weighs less than 80 pounds, excluding cargo;
- Has a maximum speed of 12.5 mph; and
- Is equipped with technology to transport personal property with the active monitoring of a property owner and primarily designed to remain within 25 feet of the property owner.

A mobile carrier is not considered a vehicle or personal delivery device unless expressly defined by law as a vehicle or personal delivery device.²²

Mobile carriers have operating provisions similar to PDDs. However, mobile carriers are not required to have a marker with an identifying number and the name and contact information of

¹⁶ Section 316.008(7)(b), F.S. However, a PDD may not be operated on the Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network or the Florida Greenways and Trails System.

¹⁷ Section 316.2071(1), F.S.

¹⁸ Section 316.2071(2)(b), F.S.

¹⁹ Section 316.2071(3), F.S.

²⁰ Section 316.2071(4), F.S.

²¹ *City of Miami Beach*, City Commission Meeting, February 5, 2026, Items R5 H and I.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=80MFjswJT9U> at 3:25:38 - 3:51:23. (Last visited February 12, 2026)

(<https://miamibeachfl.primegov.com/Portal/Meeting?meetingTemplateId=5847> (last visited February 12, 2026) (Copy of ordinance on file with Senate Committee on Transportation.)

²² Section 316.003(43), F.S.

its operator. Mobile carrier operators are also not required to be insured. Additionally, mobile carriers may not transport persons or animals.²³

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 316.003(59), F.S., to update the definition of “personal delivery device” to:

- Authorize the operation of PDDs on bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, or on the shoulder of the street, roadway, or highway, not including a limited access facility;²⁴ and
- Limit a PDDs speed to 20 miles per hour on bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, and on the shoulder of the street, roadway, or highway, not including a limited access facility.

The bill amends s. 316.008(7)(b), F.S., relating to the powers of local authorities to authorize PDDs to operate on sidewalks, crosswalks, bicycle lanes, bicycle paths, and on the shoulder of the street, roadway, or highway, but not on a limited access facility. However, this does not restrict a county or municipality from adopting regulations for the safe operation of PDDs.

The bill also prohibits counties or municipalities from enacting, imposing, levying, collecting, or enforcing:

- An operating fee for a PDD, except as expressly authorized by state statute; or
- An advertising regulation that restricts, prohibits, conditions, or otherwise limits commercial advertising on PDDs.

The bill amends s. 316.2071, F.S., to provide that a PDD operating on a sidewalk or a crosswalk has all the rights and duties applicable to a pedestrian under the same circumstances. A PDD may not unreasonably interfere with pedestrians, bicycles, and motor vehicles and must yield the right of way to pedestrians.

A PDD may not do any of the following:

- Operate on a sidewalk, crosswalk, bicycle lane, or shoulder of a street, roadway, or highway, unless it meets the FDOT’s minimum criteria and a human operator is capable of controlling and monitoring its navigation and operation.
- Transport hazardous materials.
- Operate on a limited access facility.

The bill also provides that a mobile carrier may not unreasonably interfere with pedestrians, bicycles, or motor vehicles and must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.

The bill authorizes the FDOT to adopt rules to implement s. 316.2071, F.S., relating to PDDs and mobile carriers.

²³ Section 316.2071, F.S.

²⁴ Section 316.003(36), F.S., defines the term “limited access facility” to mean a street or highway especially designed for through traffic and over, from, or to which owners or occupants of abutting land or other persons have no right or easement, or only a limited right or easement, of access, light, air, or view by reason of the fact that their property abuts upon such limited access facility or for any other reason. Such highways or streets may be parkways from which trucks, buses, and other commercial vehicles are excluded or may be freeways open to use by all customary forms of street and highway traffic.

Registration Decals for Rental Trucks (Section 7)

Present Situation

With limited exceptions, Florida law requires every motor vehicle operating on its roads to be registered.²⁵ Upon registration, the DHSMV assigns the motor vehicle a registration license number and issues to the owner or lessee a certificate of registration and a registration license plate.²⁶

With each license plate, a validation sticker is issued and must be placed on the upper right hand corner of the plate to indicate the registration renewal period. The registration is for 12 months but may be extended to 24 months.²⁷

Florida law authorizes the following rental vehicles and rental trucks to elect a permanent registration period, provided that the appropriate license taxes and fees are paid annually.

- Motor vehicles that carry under nine passengers;
- Rental trucks with a net weight of not more than 5,000 pounds; and
- Rental heavy trucks with gross vehicle weights of less than 15,000 pounds.²⁸

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 320.06(1)(b), F.S., to increase the weight limit for rental heavy trucks eligible for a permanent registration period to such trucks that weigh no more than 26,001 pounds, provided that the appropriate license taxes are paid annually.

Digital Proof of Driver License or Identification Card (Sections 8-11)

Present Situation

The DHSMV is required to develop a secure and uniform system for issuing an optional digital proof of driver license. The DHSMV may contract with one or more private entities to develop a digital proof of driver license system.²⁹ The digital proof of driver license must allow law enforcement to verify its authenticity.³⁰

In order to be issued a digital driver license or identification card, one must satisfy all of the statutory requirements for the driver license or identification card.³¹

If a private entity scans a digital proof of driver license or identification card, the private entity may not store, sell, or share the personal information collected, except with informed consent of the individual.³²

²⁵ Section 320.02(1), F.S.

²⁶ Section 320.06(1), F.S.

²⁷ Section 320.06(b)(1), F.S.

²⁸ *Id.* Motor vehicle license taxes are pursuant to s. 320.08, F.S.

²⁹ Section 322.032(2), F.S.

³⁰ Section 322.032(3), F.S.

³¹ Section 322.032(4), F.S.

³² Section 322.032(7), F.S.

The DHSMV must invalidate a digital proof of driver license in the event of a driver license suspension.³³ Additionally, the digital proof of driver license may be presented in lieu of a printed driver license.³⁴

By July 1, 2023, the DHSMV was required to have its digital proof of driver license system include the ability to display vehicle registration and insurance information, notify a driver of a lapse in insurance coverage, and allow a driver to update insurance information.³⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill repeals s. 322.032, F.S., eliminating the DHSMV's authority to develop a digital proof of driver license and identification card. The bill also repeals s. 324.252, F.S., to repeal the requirement that the DHSMV's digital driver license system display vehicle registration and insurance information.

The bill also amends s. 322.059, F.S., to remove a provision related to digital driver licenses and driver license suspension, and amends s. 322.15(1), F.S., to remove a provision regarding presenting a digital proof of driver license in lieu of a printed driver license.

Drone Delivery Services (Section 12)

Present Situation

Florida law defines the term “drone” to mean a powered, aerial vehicle that:

- Does not carry a human operator;
- Uses aerodynamic forces to provide vehicle lift;
- Can fly autonomously or be piloted remotely;
- Can be expendable or recoverable; and
- Can carry a lethal or nonlethal payload.³⁶

Except as provided in federal regulations, authorizations, or exemptions, Florida law vests in the state the authority to regulate the operation of drones.³⁷

For a drone delivery service,³⁸ a political subdivision may not withhold issuance of a business tax receipt, development permit, or other use approval to a drone delivery service or enact or enforce an ordinance or resolution prohibiting a drone delivery service's operation based on the location of its drone port.³⁹ However, a political subdivision may enforce minimum setback and

³³ Section 322.059, F.S.

³⁴ Section 322.15(1), F.S. However, a printed driver license must be presented of a law enforcement officer or authorized representative of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles is unable to immediately verify the digital proof of driver license.

³⁵ Section 324.252, ch. 2022-169, Laws of Fla.

³⁶ Section 934.50, F.S. This definition also applies to s. 330.41, F.S. *See* s. 330.41(2)(c), F.S.

³⁷ Section 330.41(3)(a), F.S.

³⁸ Section 330.41(2)(d), F.S., defines the term “drone delivery service” to mean a person or entity engaged in a business or profession of delivering goods via drone and who is governed by Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

³⁹ Section 330.41(2)(e), F.S., defines the term “drone port” to mean a stand-alone building that does not exceed 1,500 square feet in area or 36 feet in height; is located in a nonresidential area; is used or intended for use by a drone delivery service for the storage, launch, landing, and observation of drones.

landscaping regulations that are generally applicable to permitted uses in the drone port's zoning district. This may not be construed to authorize a political subdivision to require additional landscaping as a condition of approving a drone port.⁴⁰

Local Government Minimum Parking Requirements

Florida law requires local land development regulations to contain specific and detailed provisions necessary or desirable to implement its adopted comprehensive plan. Included in the minimum requirements is to ensure safe and convenient onsite traffic flow, considering needed vehicle parking.⁴¹

Counties and municipalities may elect to adopt regulations setting the minimum number of parking spaces required for various land uses, including commercial property. These requirements may be based on factors such as the use of the property and the square footage of buildings on the property.⁴²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 330.41(3)(c), F.S., to prohibit a political subdivision from withholding land use approval for a drone delivery service on a commercial property.⁴³ The bill also prohibits a political subdivision from enacting an ordinance or resolution prohibiting the operation of a drone delivery service.

The bill provides that the addition of a drone delivery service within a commercial property's parking area does not reduce the number of parking spaces for the purpose of complying with any requirement for minimum number of parking spaces.

FDOT's Aviation Duties (Sections 13 and 14)

Present Situation

The FDOT is authorized to assist and advise, cooperate, and coordinate with the federal, state, local, or private organizations and individuals in planning the state's system of airports.⁴⁴ The FDOT may also coordinate and assist in developing the state's aviation system and assist the state's airports.⁴⁵

⁴⁰ Section 330.41(3)(c), F.S.

⁴¹ Section 163.3202, F.S.

⁴² See Generally, City of Tallahassee Land Development Regulations, Section 10.358 – Schedules of required parking spaces. https://library.municode.com/fl/tallahassee/codes/land_development_code?nodeId=LADECO_CH10ZO_ARTVIOREPALO_VEINRE_DIV2OREPA_S10-358SCREPASP (last visited December 23, 2025).

⁴³ Section 330.41(1)(a), F.S., defines the term "commercial property" to mean real property other than residential property. The term includes, but is not limited to, a property zoned multifamily residential which is comprised of five or more dwelling units, and real property used for commercial, industrial, or agricultural purposes.

⁴⁴ Section 332.001(1), F.S.

⁴⁵ Section 332.006(1), F.S.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) classifies commercial service airports as publicly-owned airports with at least 2,500 annual passenger enplanements and scheduled air carrier service.⁴⁶ Florida currently has 21 commercial service airports.⁴⁷

The Transportation Security Administration's (TSA)⁴⁸ Screening Partnership Program contracts with qualified private companies to provide security screening services at commercial service airports. These private companies operate under federal oversight and must comply with the TSA's security screening procedures.⁴⁹ Florida airports currently participating in the program are Orlando-Sanford International, Punta Gorda, and Sarasota-Bradenton International.⁵⁰

The TSA's PreCheck program provides low-risk travelers with secure and efficient security screenings using dedicated PreCheck security lanes. PreCheck passengers may leave their shoes, belts, and light jackets on and are not required to remove laptops and certain liquids from carry-on bags. The TSA has authorized three providers to provide PreCheck enrollment and there are over 1,300 enrollment locations nationwide, with five years of PreCheck enrollment costing individuals \$85 or less.⁵¹

The TSA offers PreCheck services to military members and their families. Uniformed service members and civilian employees of the Department of Defense may receive free TSA PreCheck, which may be used for both official and personal travel. The TSA offers a \$25 discount on PreCheck enrollment or renewal for military spouses and free enrollment for eligible family members of fallen service members. The TSA is working with the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to offer free PreCheck to qualified disabled veterans.⁵²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 332.001, F.S., to authorize the FDOT to plan and direct investments in airport systems to facilitate the efficient movement of passengers and cargo and to continuously improve the experience of the traveling public and the supply chain of this state's businesses.

The bill amends s. 332.006, F.S., to require the FDOT to coordinate with commercial service airports to review and evaluate the TSA's policies and programs, including but not limited to, security screening programs and programs for veterans, active duty service members, and their families. This is to improve efficiency in the security screening process and the overall experience of the flying public.

⁴⁶ Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), *Airport Categories*, https://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/categories (last visited January 13, 2026).

⁴⁷ FDOT presentation on FDOT and Florida's Aviation Network to the Senate Committee on Transportation, December 2, 2025.

⁴⁸ The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) is part of the United States Department of Homeland Security.

⁴⁹ Transportation Security Administration (TSA), *Screening Partnership Program*, <https://www.tsa.gov/for-industry/screening-partnerships> (last visited January 13, 2026).

⁵⁰ *Id.*

⁵¹ TSA Precheck, <https://www.tsa.gov/precheck> (last visited January 13, 2026).

⁵² TSA Precheck for Uniformed Service Members, <https://www.tsa.gov/precheck/military> (last visited January 13, 2026).

Commercial Service Airport Plans (Section 15)

Present Situation

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-required airport master plans are a comprehensive study of the airport that prescribes the short-, medium-, and long-term development plans to meet future aviation demand.⁵³ The master plan provides the framework needed to guide future airport development to cost-effectively satisfy aviation demand, while considering potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts. Airport master plans provide aviation forecasts, facility requirements, facilities implementation plans, and a financial feasibility analysis.⁵⁴

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 332.0075, F.S., to require commercial service airports to plan for obtaining and maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the airport, its tenants, and the traveling public. Such plans must include long-term contracts and rights of first refusal regarding the sale of such resources and contingency plans for such resources.

The bill defines the term “critical infrastructure resources” to include, but is not limited to, access to electricity, fuel, and water resources.

Advanced Air Mobility-Related Definitions (Section 16)

Present Situation

Federal law defines the term “Advanced Air Mobility” (AAM) as a transportation system that transports people and property by air between two points in the United States using aircraft with advanced technologies, including electric aircraft or electric vertical take-off and landing aircraft, in controlled and uncontrolled airspace.⁵⁵

AAM encompasses new technologies and business models designed to enable small, low-altitude aircraft operations at increasing scale and decreasing cost. It introduces new aircraft designs, including manned and unmanned aircraft with novel flight characteristics, control schemes, modes of operation and propulsion sources, that can fly quietly and efficiently.⁵⁶ AAM also includes air traffic management solutions to manage high volumes of aircraft safely, securely, and efficiently at low altitudes. Finally, AAM incorporates new and modified infrastructure that integrates flight networks into the hearts of communities.⁵⁷

⁵³ FAA Advisory Circular AC 150/5070-6B, *Airport Master Plans*, January 27, 2015, p. 2

https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory_Circular/AC_150_5070-6B_with_chg_1&2.pdf (last visited January 13, 2026).

⁵⁴ *Id.* Table of Contents

⁵⁵ United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), *The Advanced Air Mobility National Strategy, A Bold Policy Vision for 2026-2036*, December 17, 2025, p. 1. Available at: https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2025-12/AAM%20National%20Strategy%202025_508c_251201.pdf (last visited January 12, 2026).

⁵⁶ *Id.*

⁵⁷ SunTrax Air, <https://suntraxfl.com/suntrax-air/> (last visited January 28, 2026).

The FDOT is laying the groundwork to build an intercity AAM “Aerial Highway Network” connecting major metropolitan areas across Florida.⁵⁸ In addition to performing research and development at its SunTrax test facility, the FDOT is developing custom curriculums to establish unique requirements for licensing to safely operate within the AAM Network.⁵⁹

SunTrax, the FDOT’s research facility in Polk County, has been designated as the research and development testing hub of the Florida’s AAM program.⁶⁰ Early development phases of vertiport demonstration will consist of a passenger terminal, at-grade vertiports, access roads with vehicle staging, eVTOL parking positions and charging station, and research and development hangars.⁶¹ *Transportation Corridors*

For purposes of the Florida Transportation Code,⁶² the term “transportation corridor” is defined to mean any land area designated by the state, a county, or a municipality which is between two geographic points and which area is used or suitable for the movement of people and goods by one or more modes of transportation, including areas necessary for management of access and securing applicable approvals and permits.⁶³

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 334.03, F.S., to define the term “advanced air mobility corridor connection point” to mean any land area or transportation facility,⁶⁴ including airspace designated by the FDOT as suitable to support the efficient movement of people and goods by use as a connection point for advanced air mobility.”

The bill also amends the statutory definition of “transportation corridor” for purposes of the Florida Transportation Code to include any advanced air mobility connection point into that definition and to exempt such connection points from certain requirements for such corridors.

FDOT’s Purchase of Promotional Items (Section 17)

Present Situation

The FDOT is authorized to purchase promotional items as part of public information and education campaigns. Such items may be purchased to promote environmental management,

⁵⁸ Florida Department of Transportation, *From the Ground to the Skies: Florida’s Aerial Highway Network*, November 2025. Available at https://fdotwww.blob.core.windows.net/sitefinity/docs/default-source/aviation/aam/fdot-2025-advanced-mobility_strategy.pdf?sfvrsn=19eb551c_1 (last visited January 28, 2026).

⁵⁹ *Id.*

⁶⁰ Central Florida Development Council, SunTrax Named Florida’s Home for Advanced Air Mobility, Positioning Polk as Statewide Innovation Leader, November 18, 2025. <https://www.cfdc.org/suntrax-named-floridas-home-for-advanced-air-mobility-positioning-polk-as-statewide-innovation-leader/> (last visited January 28, 2026).

⁶¹ SunTrax Air, <https://suntraxfl.com/suntrax-air/> (last visited January 28, 2026).

⁶² Chapters 334-339, 341, 348, and 349 and ss. 332.003-332.007, 351.35, 351.36, 351.37, and 861.011, F.S. *See* s. 334.01, F.S.

⁶³ Section 334.03(29), F.S.

⁶⁴ Section 334.03(30), F.S., defines the term “transportation facility” to mean any means for the transportation of people or property from place to place which is constructed, operated, or maintained in whole or in part from public funds. The term includes the property or property rights, both real and personal, which have been or may be established by public bodies for the transportation of people or property from place to place.

scenic highways, traffic and train safety awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, workforce development, electric vehicle use and charging stations, autonomous vehicles, and context classification for electric vehicles and autonomous vehicles.⁶⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 334.044(5), F.S., to authorize the FDOT to purchase promotional items regarding transportation-related economic development opportunities and advanced air mobility. The bill also removes the FDOT's authorization to purchase promotional items regarding the use of electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations.

FDOT Research Programs (Section 17)

Present Situation

The FDOT is authorized to conduct research studies and collect data necessary to improve the state's transportation system.⁶⁶ The FDOT may also conduct research and demonstration projects related to innovative transportation technologies.⁶⁷ The FDOT contracts with state universities and other research service providers to conduct research in all areas of transportation.⁶⁸

Located in Polk County, the FDOT's SunTrax research facility is dedicated to the research, development, and testing of emerging transportation technologies in safe and controlled environments, including ground transportation and advanced air mobility.⁶⁹

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 334.044, F.S., to authorize the FDOT to operate and maintain designated research facilities and enter into contracts and agreements for conducting research studies, and to collect data necessary to improve the state's transportation system.

The bill authorizes the FDOT to enter into contracts and agreements for conducting research and demonstration projects related to innovative transportation technologies.

FDOT Coordination with Local Governments for Federal Transportation Funding (Section 17)

Present Situation

The Florida Transportation Code establishes state, county, and municipal responsibilities in planning and developing the state's transportation system to ensure the development of an integrated, balanced statewide system.⁷⁰

⁶⁵ Section 334.044(5), F.S.

⁶⁶ Section 334.044(20), F.S.

⁶⁷ Section 334.044(21), F.S.

⁶⁸ FDOT, *Research Center*, <https://www.fdot.gov/research> (last visited January 13, 2026).

⁶⁹ SunTrax, <https://suntraxfl.com/about-us/facility-usage/> (last visited January 13, 2026).

⁷⁰ Section 334.035, F.S.

The United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) and its operating administrations administer grant and loan programs that provide direct funding state and local governments.⁷¹

Often, local governments will submit requests for federal grants to the Federal government and not request the FDOT's input and feedback. According to the FDOT, this process does not facilitate the statewide coordination of grant applications or an assessment of the entire impact on the state transportation system.⁷²

FDOT Mission, Goals, and Objectives

In planning and developing Florida's multimodal transportation system, the FDOT must consider the following prevailing principles:

- Preserving Florida's transportation infrastructure;
- Supporting its economic competitiveness;
- Promoting the efficient movement of people and goods; and
- preserving Florida's quality of life.⁷³

The FDOT's mission is to provide a safe statewide transportation system that promotes the efficient movement of people and goods, supports the state's economic competitiveness, prioritizes Florida's environment and natural resources, and preserves the quality of life and connectedness of the state's communities.⁷⁴

The FDOT's goals must, at a minimum, address the following prevailing principles:

- Maintaining investments;
- Economic competitiveness;
- Connected transportation system; and
- Preserving Florida's natural resources and quality of life.⁷⁵

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 334.044, F.S., relating the FDOT's powers and duties to authorize the FDOT to require local governments to submit applications for federal funding for projects on state-owned rights-of-way, road, bridges, and limited access facilities. This is for the FDOT's review and approval prior to submitting the application to federal government.

The bill authorizes the FDOT to coordinate with and provide assistance to local governments on the development and review for federal transportation funding to ensure that each project receiving federal funds is consistent with the FDOT's mission, goals, and objectives.

⁷¹ Information on various federal transportation is available at: <https://www.transportation.gov/grants/dashboard> (last visited January 29, 2026).

⁷² FDOT, SB 1220 Transportation, Reference Sheet. P. 4. (On file with the Senate Committee on Transportation).

⁷³ Section 334.046(1), F.S.

⁷⁴ Section 334.046(2), F.S.

⁷⁵ Section 334.046(2), F.S.

According to the FDOT, local government coordination with the FDOT prior to submitting federal grant applications will ensure that these applications will be reviewed by the FDOT to ensure that each project has the maximum benefit to the state's transportation system.⁷⁶

FDOT Owning and Operating Airports (Section 17)

Present Situation

For purposes of the State Airport Licensing Law,⁷⁷ the term "airport" is defined to mean a specific area of land or water or a structure used for, or intended to be used for, aircraft operations, which may include appurtenant areas, buildings, facilities, or rights-of-way necessary to facilitate such use or intended use. The term includes, but is not limited to, airparks, airports,⁷⁸ gliderports, heliports, helistops, seaplane bases, ultralight flightparks, vertiports, and vertistops.⁷⁹

The FDOT's Aviation Office develops the Florida Aviation System Plan, promotes the development and improvement of Florida's airports, regulates airports, and protects airport approaches. The office's activities include aviation system development, aviation grant program, airport regulation, intergovernmental coordination, aviation outreach and aviation emergency operations management.⁷⁹

In Florida, publicly-owned airports are governed by counties or municipalities or as a special district. The FDOT does not currently own or operate an airport.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates s. 334.044(42), F.S., to authorize the FDOT, notwithstanding any other law, to acquire, own, construct, or operate, or any combination thereof, one or more airports to support advanced air mobility. The FDOT may adopt rules to implement this provision.

LiDAR Procurement and Mapping (Section 18)

Present Situation

Currently, the DEP serves as the lead agency of the executive branch for developing and reviewing policies, practices, and standards related to geospatial data managed by state agencies and water management districts.⁸⁰

In 2025, the Legislature required the FDOT to coordinate with all state agencies to establish a workgroup to review state statutes, policies, practices, and standards relating to statewide mapping programs. The FDOT, in coordination with the workgroup, was required to make recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by November 15, 2025, for any legislative action necessary to establish the FDOT as the primary point of contact for statewide geographic information systems and to update statutes relating to

⁷⁶ *Id.*

⁷⁷ Sections 330.27-330.39, F.S.

⁷⁸ Section 330.27, F.S.,

⁷⁹ FDOT, *Welcome to Aviation Office*, <https://www.fdot.gov/aviation> (last visited February 2, 2026).

⁸⁰ Section 20.255(9), F.S.

geographic information systems and geospatial data sharing to allow for coordination and access to such systems and geospatial data.⁸¹

In November 2025, the FDOT submitted its review and recommendations. One recommendation was to provide statutory authority for interagency agreements to support cost sharing for aerial topographic LiDAR and to define roles and responsibilities regarding topographical LiDAR data collection.⁸²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill creates s. 334.64, F.S., to establish the FDOT as the primary point of contact for statewide topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-sharing related to statewide geographic information systems and geospatial data sharing. The FDOT may provide these services to other state and local governmental entities by entering into an interagency agreement.⁸³

The bill requires all state agencies and local governmental entities conducting programs or exercising powers relating to topographic aerial LiDAR mapping to enter into an interagency agreement with the FDOT for the FDOT's provision of topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-sharing services. The agreement will also delegate the authority to conduct programs and exercise powers relating to topographic aerial LiDAR mapping procurement and cost-sharing services to the FDOT pursuant to the interagency agreement. The FDOT may adopt rules to implement this program.

South Florida Turnpike Tolls (Section 19)

Present Situation

The FDOT is required to fix, adjust, charge, and collect tolls for the use of its turnpike system. The FDOT uses toll revenues to maintain, improve, repair, and operate the system, to pay the principal and interest on turnpike bonds, and to create appropriate reserves.⁸⁴

From July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2027,⁸⁵ the FDOT must, to the maximum extent feasible, program sufficient funds in its tentative work program such that the percentage of turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties as compared to total turnpike toll and bond financed commitments is at least 90 percent of the share of net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system in those counties as compared to total net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system.⁸⁶

⁸¹ Chapter 2025-155, Laws of Fla.

⁸² FDOT, *Statewide Geospatial Data and Mapping Recommendations*, November 15, 2025, pp. i and 11. (On file with Senate Committee on Transportation).

⁸³ Such interagency agreements must be consistent with ch. 216, F.S., relating to planning and budgeting.

⁸⁴ Section 338.231, F.S.

⁸⁵ This provision was initially created in 1997, for the period of July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2007 (s. 10 of ch. 97-280, Laws of Fla.). In 2007, it was extended until June 30, 2017 (s. 37 of ch. 2007-196, Laws of Fla.). In 2017, it was extended until June 30, 2027 (s. 3 of ch. 2017-182, Laws of Fla.).

⁸⁶ Section 338.231(3)(a), F.S. This provision does not apply when applying this requirement would violate bond covenants.

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 338.231(3), F.S., to extend, through June 30, 2029, the requirement that 90 percent of the turnpike revenues collected in Miami-Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach Counties be used in those counties.

Beginning in fiscal year 2029-2030, the bill requires the FDOT, to the maximum extent feasible, to program sufficient funds in its tentative work program such that 100 percent of the net toll collections attributable to turnpike users in Miami Dade, Broward, and Palm Beach counties are used for turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in those counties.

Paratransit Services to Persons with Disabilities (Section 21)

Present Situation

Florida law defines the term “paratransit service” to mean those elements of public transit which provide service between specific origins and destinations selected by the individual user with such service being provided at a time that is agreed upon by the user and the provider of the service.⁸⁷

In 2024, the Legislature passed CS/CS/SB 1380⁸⁸ relating to transportation services for persons with disabilities and the transportation disadvantaged.⁸⁹ That bill amended the FDOT’s transit responsibilities to require the FDOT to ensure that all grants and agreements between the FDOT and entities providing paratransit services include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

- Performance requirements for the delivery of services, including clear penalties for repeated or continuing violations.
- Minimum liability insurance requirements for all transportation services purchased, provided, or coordinated for the transportation disadvantaged through the contracted vendor or its subcontractor.
- Complaint and grievance processes for paratransit users, including a requirement that all reported complaints, grievances, and resolutions be reported to FDOT on a quarterly basis.
- A requirement that the provisions above be included in any agreement between an entity receiving a grant or an agreement from FDOT and such entity's contractors or subcontractors that provide paratransit services.⁹⁰

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 341.041, F.S., to provide that the above requirements for grants and agreements between the FDOT and entities providing paratransit services only apply to those entities providing such services to persons with disabilities.

⁸⁷ Section 341.031(5), F.S. Paratransit service is provided by taxis, limousines, “dial-a-ride” buses, and other demand-responsive operations that are characterized by their nonscheduled, nonfixed route nature.

⁸⁸ Chapter 2024-171, Laws of Fla.

⁸⁹ Section 427.011(1), F.S., defines the term “transportation disadvantaged” to mean those persons who because of physical or mental disability, income status, or age are unable to transport themselves or to purchase transportation and are, therefore, dependent upon others to obtain access to health care, employment, education, shopping, social activities, or other life-sustaining activities, or children who are handicapped or high-risk or at-risk.

⁹⁰ Section 341.041(16), F.S.

Shooting or Throwing Objects into an Autonomous Vehicle (Section 22)

Present Situation

Florida law defines the term “autonomous vehicle” to mean any vehicle equipped with an automated driving system.⁹¹ Autonomous vehicles use technology to partially or entirely replace a human driver in navigating vehicles, responding to traffic conditions, and avoiding road hazards. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) uses a classification system developed by the Society of Automotive Engineers, based on the degree of human intervention.⁹² The levels of automation are classified as:

- Level 0 - Vehicles equipped with no automated features, requiring the driver to be in complete control of the vehicle.
- Level 1 - Vehicles equipped with one or more primary automated features, such as cruise control, but require the driver to perform all other tasks.
- Level 2 - Vehicles equipped with two or more primary features, such as adaptive cruise control and lane-keeping, that work together to relieve the driver from controlling those functions.
- Level 3 - Vehicles equipped with features that allow the driver to relinquish control of the vehicle’s safety-critical functions depending on traffic and environmental conditions. The driver is expected to take over control of the vehicle given the constraints of the automated features after an appropriately timed transition period.
- Level 4 - Vehicles equipped with features that allow the driver to relinquish control of the vehicle’s safety-critical functions. The vehicle can perform all aspects of driving even if the driver does not respond to a request to intervene.
- Level 5 - Fully autonomous vehicles that monitor roadway conditions and perform safety-critical tasks throughout the duration of the trip with or without a driver present. This level of autonomy is appropriate for occupied and unoccupied trips.⁹³

At least one autonomous ride hailing service is now available to riders in Miami.⁹⁴ That company has plans to expand into Orlando and Tampa.⁹⁵ Nationally, there have been cases of autonomous ride hailing vehicles being vandalized.⁹⁶

Shooting or Throwing an Object into a Vehicle

Section 790.19, F.S., provides that whoever, wantonly or maliciously, shoots at, within, or into, or throws any missile or hurls or projects a stone or other hard substance which would produce

⁹¹ Section 316.003(3)(a), F.S. Section 316.003(3), F.S., defines the term “automated driving system” to mean the hardware and software that are collectively capable of performing the entire dynamic driving task of an autonomous vehicle on a sustained basis, regardless of whether it is limited to a specific operational design domain.

⁹² University of Michigan, Center for Sustainable Systems, *Autonomous Vehicle Fact Sheet*, <https://css.umich.edu/publications/factsheets/mobility/autonomous-vehicles-factsheet> (last visited December 17, 2025).

⁹³ *Id.*

⁹⁴ Jordan Kissane, Patrick Chalvire, and Kevin Boulardier, Waymo opens fully autonomous ride-hailing service to public in Miami, January 22, 2026, <https://wsvn.com/news/local/miami-dade/waymo-opens-fully-autonomous-ride-hailing-service-to-public-in-miami/?FBWSVN>, (last visited January 29, 2026).

⁹⁵ Waymo, *Where Waymo is Driving*, <https://waymo.com/> (last visited January 29, 2026).

⁹⁶ Owen Bellwood, *Crowd Shatters Windows, Rips Door Off Empty Waymo Cab Stopped In LA*, January 28, 2026. <https://autos.yahoo.com/crowd-shatters-windows-rips-door-170000618.html> (last visited January 29, 2026).

death or great bodily harm, at, within, or in any occupied or unoccupied public or private building, public or private bus or any train, or vehicle of any kind which is being used or occupied by any person, or any boat lying in or plying the waters of this state, or aircraft flying through the airspace of this state commits a felony of the second degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment not to exceed 15 years, a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or as a habitual offender.⁹⁷

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 790.19, F.S., to provide that shooting into or throwing a deadly missile into an occupied or unoccupied autonomous vehicle is a felony of the second degree. This is punishable by a term of imprisonment not to exceed 15 years, a fine not to exceed \$10,000, or as a habitual offender.

Criminal Mischief – Autonomous Vehicles (Section 23)

Present Situation

Section 806.13, F.S., provides that a person commits criminal mischief if he or she willfully and maliciously injures or damages by any means any real or personal property belonging to another, including, but not limited to, the placement of graffiti or other acts of vandalism.

Criminal mischief is categorized as follows:

- If the property damage is \$200 or less, it is a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment not exceeding 60 days or a fine not to exceed \$500.
- If the property damage is greater than \$200 but less than \$1,000, it is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment not exceeding one year or a fine not to exceed \$1,000.
- If the damage is \$1,000 or greater, or if there is interruption or impairment of a business operation, a public utility or power, or other public service which costs \$1,000 or more in labor and supplies to restore, it is a felony of the third degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment of not exceeding five years, a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or as a habitual offender.
- If the person has one or more previous convictions for criminal mischief, the offense for which the person is charged is reclassified as a felony of the third degree, punishable by a term of imprisonment of not exceeding five years, a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or as a habitual offender.⁹⁸

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill amends s. 806.13, F.S., to provide that any person who willfully or maliciously defaces, injures, or damages any autonomous vehicle and the damage to the autonomous vehicle is greater than \$200 commits a felony of the third degree. This is punishable by a term of imprisonment of not exceeding five years, a fine not to exceed \$5,000, or as a habitual offender.⁹⁹

⁹⁷ Sections 775.082, 775.083, and 775.084, F.S.

⁹⁸ Section 806.13(1)(b), F.S. The penalties are contained in ss. 775.082, 775.083, and 775.084, F.S.

⁹⁹ Sections 775.082, 775.083, and 775.084, F.S.

Alternative Fuel Study (Sections 24 and 25)

Present Situation

State Transportation Funding

The State Transportation Trust Fund (STTF) primarily receives revenues from state taxes and fees, including fuel taxes and motor vehicle license-related fees. For Fiscal Year 2024-2025, \$5.3 billion in state revenues was deposited into the STTF from the following sources:

Revenue Source¹⁰⁰	Dollar Amount (In millions)	Percentage of Total
Fuel Taxes	\$3,103	58%
Motor Vehicle License Fees	\$1,556	29%
Rental Car Surcharge	\$134	3%
Local Option Distribution	\$49	1%
Documentary Stamp Tax	\$467	9%

Between 2016 and 2023, the number of electric vehicles (EVs) registered in Florida increased by 2,097 percent to about 255,000 vehicles. Additionally, the number of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) registered in Florida increased by 467 percent to about 57,000 vehicles. Additionally, there are projections that indicate that by 2030, 40 to 50 percent of passenger car sales in the United States will be EVs.¹⁰¹

While EVs and PHEVs pay sales tax at public charging statutes, they do not pay taxes, such as fuel taxes, dedicated to fund transportation. Due to the increased number of EVs and PHEVs, by 2040, transportation revenues may fall short of projected revenues by up to 20 percent. One estimate is that EVs have already reduced Florida's annual motor fuel tax revenues by \$46.4 million to \$73.8 million.¹⁰²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill requires the FDOT to evaluate the long-term impact of alternative fuel vehicles on state transportation revenues and identify potential policy options to address projected revenue reductions. The study must:

- Identify the projected impact of specific alternative fuel vehicle types and the corresponding projected impact on state transportation revenues.
- Evaluate new transportation revenue models, including, but not limited to, alternative fuel vehicle-specific registration fees and taxes; technological and industry partnerships that could facilitate fees based on miles-per-gallon usage equivalences; and revenue models that are based on vehicle miles-based taxes.
- Analyze the advantages, disadvantages, and projected revenue impacts from each transportation revenue model.

¹⁰⁰ FDOT, Office of Work Program and Budget, *Florida's Transportation Tax Sources, A Primer*, 2026. p. 2. <https://fdotewp1.dot.state.fl.us/FMSupportApps/Documents/primer.pdf> (last visited February 2, 2026).

¹⁰¹ Florida Tax Watch, *Fair Share Taxes Driven Away by Electric Vehicles*, April 2025, <https://floridataxwatch.org/Research/Blog/fair-share-taxes-driven-away-by-electric-vehicles> (last visited February 3, 2026).

¹⁰² *Id.*

The bill requires the FDOT, by January 1, 2027, to submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives providing the results of the study.

The bill appropriates \$300,000 in nonrecurring funds from the State Transportation Trust Fund to the FDOT for the purpose of this study.

Conforming Changes (Sections 26-39)

The bill amends ss. 311.07, 316.0777, 316.515, 336.01, 338.222, 341.8225, 376.3071, 403.7211, 479.261, 715.07, 1006.23, F.S., to conform cross-references.

The bill reenacts the following statutes to incorporate the changes made to s. 316.003, F.S., which amends the definition of the term personal delivery device:

- Section 320.02(21), F.S., providing that a PDD is not required to satisfy motor vehicle registration and insurance requirements;
- Section 324.021(1), F.S., defining the term “motor vehicle” as it relates to motor vehicle financial responsibility; and
- Section 324.022(2)(a), F.S., defining the term “motor vehicle” as it relates to the definition of “motor vehicle” as it relates to the financial responsibility for property damage.

Effective Date (Section 40)

This bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Authorizing permanent registration decals for additional rental heavy trucks may provide enhanced operating efficiency for truck rental businesses. (Section 7)

Persons violating the prohibitions on criminal activity involving autonomous vehicles will be subject to specified penalties. (Section 21 and 22)

C. Government Sector Impact:

Seaports and airports may incur indeterminate costs associated with additional planning requirements in the bill. (Sections 2 and 15)

The FDOT indicates that the opportunity to review local federal funding requests prior to submission will allow the FDOT to review projects for consistency with its work program, production schedules, and evaluate funding trade-offs which may result from prioritizing a competitive grant ahead of the existing program. This insight will allow the FDOT to better plan, prepare, and deliver an integrated, balanced statewide transportation system.¹⁰³ However, the fiscal impact of this provision is indeterminate. (Section 17)

State and local governmental entities may experience some cost savings due to the statewide coordination regarding the procurement of LiDAR technologies. (Section 18)

The bill creates new criminal penalties regarding intentional damage to autonomous vehicles, which may have an indeterminate fiscal impact on local and state corrections systems. (Sections 21 and 22)

The bill appropriates \$300,000 from the STTF to the FDOT to evaluate the long-term impact of alternative fuel vehicles on state transportation revenues. (Section 25)

VI. Technical Deficiencies

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

¹⁰³ E-mail from Jack Rogers, FDOT Legislative Affairs Director, (no subject), January 14, 2026. (On file with Senate Committee on Transportation).

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 260.0142, 311.14, 316.003, 316.008, 316.2071, 320.06, 322.059, 322.15, 330.41, 332.001, 332.006, 332.0075, 334.03, 334.044, 338.231, 339.81, 341.041, 790.19, 806.13, 311.07, 316.0777, 316.515, 336.01, 341.8225, 376.3071, 403.7211, 479.261, 715.07, and 1006.23.

This bill creates the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 311.26 and 334.64.

This bill repeals the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 322.032 and 324.252.

This bill reenacts the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 320.02, 324.021, and 324.022.

This bill creates two undesignated sections of Florida law.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS/CS by Appropriation Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development on February 12, 2026:

The committee substitute

- Prohibits counties or municipalities from levying a fee on or restricting commercial advertising on personal delivery devices.
- Revises provisions regarding the FDOT coordination with local governments on local applications for federal funding.
- Limits the FDOT's authority on owning and operating airports for the sole purpose of supporting advanced air mobility.
- Clarifies that certain requirements for agreements between the FDOT and paratransit providers are limited to providing such services to persons with disabilities.

CS by Transportation on February 3, 2026:

The committee substitute:

- Removes from the bill the provision authorizing the FDOT to construct operate and maintain certain roads bordering the Capitol Complex.
- Removes provisions from the bill related to the Rapid Rail Transit Compact and the Southern Rail Commission.
- Increases the weight limit for rental trucks that are eligible to receive permanent registration decals.
- Repeals the statutory authority for the development and use of digital driver licenses and identification cards.
- Defines the term “advanced air mobility corridor connection point” and incorporates that term into the definition of the term “transportation corridor.”
- Authorizes the FDOT to acquire, own, construct, or operate airports, including for purposes of supporting advanced air mobility.

- Requires the FDOT to study and evaluate the long-term impact of alternative fuel vehicles on state transportation revenues and identify policy options to address potential revenue reductions and appropriates \$300,000 for the study.
- Clarifies the FDOT and airport review of TSA programs includes security screening programs.
- Makes additional technical, conforming, and clarifying changes.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.



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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/12/2026	.	
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	.	

The Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development (Massullo) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

1 Delete lines 220 - 567
2 and insert:
3

4 3. A county or municipality may not enact, impose, levy,
5 collect, or enforce:
6 a. An operating fee for personal delivery devices, except
7 as expressly authorized by state statute; or
8 b. An advertising regulation that restricts, prohibits,
9 conditions, or otherwise limits commercial advertising on



11 personal delivery devices.

12 Section 6. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 316.2071,
13 Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (5) is added to
14 that section, to read:

15 316.2071 Personal delivery devices and mobile carriers.—
16 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law ~~to the~~
17 ~~contrary~~, a personal delivery device may operate on sidewalks,
18 crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and bicycle paths and on the
19 shoulders of streets, roadways, and highways, not including
20 limited access facilities, and a ~~or~~ mobile carrier may operate
21 on sidewalks and crosswalks, subject to s. 316.008(7)(b). A
22 personal delivery device or mobile carrier operating on a
23 sidewalk or crosswalk has all the rights and duties applicable
24 to a pedestrian under the same circumstances. A, except that the
25 personal delivery device or mobile carrier may ~~must~~ not
26 unreasonably interfere with pedestrians, bicycles, or motor
27 vehicles traffic and must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians
28 on the sidewalk or crosswalk.

29 (3) (a) A personal delivery device ~~and a mobile carrier~~ may
30 ~~not do any of the following:~~

31 1. (a) Operate on a sidewalk, crosswalk, bicycle lane, or
32 bicycle path or on the shoulder of a street, roadway, or highway
33 unless the personal delivery device meets minimum criteria
34 established by the Department of Transportation and a human
35 operator is capable of controlling and monitoring the navigation
36 and operation of the personal delivery device public highway
37 except to the extent necessary to cross a crosswalk.

38 2. Transport hazardous materials as defined in s. 316.003.

39 3. Operate on a limited access facility.



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40 (b) A mobile carrier may not do any of the following:
41 1. Operate on a public highway except to the extent
42 necessary to cross a crosswalk.
43 2. Operate on a sidewalk or crosswalk unless the personal
44 delivery device operator is actively controlling or monitoring
45 the navigation and operation of the personal delivery device or
46 a mobile carrier owner remains within 25 feet of the mobile
47 carrier.
48 3.(e) Transport hazardous materials as defined in s.
49 316.003.
50 4.(d) For mobile carriers, Transport persons or animals.
51 (5) The Department of Transportation may adopt rules to
52 implement this section.
53 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
54 320.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
55 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and
56 validation stickers generally.—
57 (1)
58 (b)1. Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol
59 and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued
60 for a 10-year period. At the end of the 10-year period, upon
61 renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The department shall
62 extend the scheduled license plate replacement date from a 6-
63 year period to a 10-year period. The fee for such replacement is
64 \$28, \$2.80 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is
65 replaced, to be credited toward the next \$28 replacement fee.
66 The fees shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating
67 Trust Fund. A credit or refund may not be given for any prior
68 years' payments of the prorated replacement fee if the plate is

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69 replaced or surrendered before the end of the 10-year period,
70 except that a credit may be given if a registrant is required by
71 the department to replace a license plate under s.
72 320.08056(8)(a). With each license plate, a validation sticker
73 shall be issued showing the owner's birth month, license plate
74 number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal
75 period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation
76 sticker shall be placed on the upper right corner of the license
77 plate. The license plate and validation sticker shall be issued
78 based on the applicant's appropriate renewal period. The
79 registration period is 12 months, the extended registration
80 period is 24 months, and all expirations occur based on the
81 applicant's appropriate registration period. Rental vehicles
82 taxed pursuant to s. 320.08(6)(a) and rental trucks taxed
83 pursuant to s. 320.08(3)(a)-(c) and (4)(a)-(f) (4)(a)-(d) may
84 elect a permanent registration period, provided payment of the
85 appropriate license taxes and fees occurs annually.
86 2. Beginning July 1, 2024, a vehicle registered in
87 accordance with the International Registration Plan must be
88 issued a license plate for a 3-year period. At the end of the 3-
89 year period, upon renewal, the license plate must be replaced.
90 Each license plate must include a validation sticker showing the
91 month of expiration. A cab card denoting the declared gross
92 vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction must be issued
93 annually. The fee for an original or a renewal cab card is \$28,
94 which must be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust
95 Fund. If the license plate is damaged or worn, it may be
96 replaced at no charge by applying to the department and
97 surrendering the current license plate.

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98 3. In order to retain the efficient administration of the
99 taxes and fees imposed by this chapter, the 80-cent fee increase
100 in the replacement fee imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of
101 Florida, is negated as provided in s. 320.0804.

102 Section 8. Section 322.032, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

103 Section 9. Section 322.059, Florida Statutes, is amended to
104 read:

105 322.059 Mandatory surrender of suspended driver license and
106 registration.—A person whose driver license or registration has
107 been suspended as provided in s. 322.058 must immediately return
108 his or her driver license and registration to the Department of
109 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The department shall
110 invalidate the digital proof of driver license issued pursuant
111 to s. 322.032 for such person. If such person fails to return
112 his or her driver license or registration, a law enforcement
113 agent may seize the license or registration while the driver
114 license or registration is suspended.

115 Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 322.15, Florida
116 Statutes, is amended to read:

117 322.15 License to be carried and exhibited on demand;
118 fingerprint to be imprinted upon a citation.—

119 (1) Every licensee shall have his or her driver license,
120 which must be fully legible with no portion of such license
121 faded, altered, mutilated, or defaced, in his or her immediate
122 possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle and shall
123 present or submit the same upon the demand of a law enforcement
124 officer or an authorized representative of the department. A
125 licensee may present or submit a digital proof of driver license
126 as provided in s. 322.032 in lieu of his or her printed driver



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127 ~~license; however, if the law enforcement officer or authorized~~
128 ~~representative of the department is unable to immediately verify~~
129 ~~the digital proof of driver license, upon the demand of the law~~
130 ~~enforcement officer or authorized representative of the~~
131 ~~department, the licensee must present or submit his or her~~
132 ~~printed driver license.~~

133 Section 11. Section 324.252, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

134 Section 12. Present paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of
135 section 330.41, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph
136 (e), a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, and
137 paragraph (c) of that subsection is amended, to read:

138 330.41 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act.—

139 (3) REGULATION.—

140 (c) Except as otherwise expressly provided, a political
141 subdivision may not withhold issuance of a business tax receipt,
142 development permit, or other land use approval to a drone
143 delivery service on a commercial property or enact or enforce an
144 ordinance or a resolution that prohibits a drone delivery
145 service's operation based on the location of its drone port,
146 notwithstanding part II of chapter 163 and chapter 205. A
147 political subdivision may enforce minimum setback and
148 landscaping regulations that are generally applicable to
149 permitted uses in the applicable drone port site's zoning
150 district. This paragraph may not be construed to authorize a
151 political subdivision to require additional landscaping as a
152 condition of approval of a drone delivery service on a
153 commercial property port.

154 (d) The addition of a drone delivery service within the
155 parking area of a commercial property does not reduce the number



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156 of parking spaces in the parking area for the purpose of
157 complying with any requirement for a minimum number of parking
158 spaces.

159 Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 332.001, Florida
160 Statutes, is amended to read:

161 332.001 Aviation; powers and duties of the Department of
162 Transportation.—

163 (1) It shall be the duty, function, and responsibility of
164 the Department of Transportation to plan and direct investments
165 in airport systems in this state to facilitate the efficient
166 movement of passengers and cargo and to continuously improve the
167 experience for the flying public and the supply chain of this
168 state's businesses. In carrying out this duty and
169 responsibility, the department may assist and advise, cooperate,
170 and coordinate with the federal, state, local, or private
171 organizations and individuals in planning such systems of
172 airports.

173 Section 14. Subsection (10) is added to section 332.006,
174 Florida Statutes, to read:

175 332.006 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of
176 Transportation.—The Department of Transportation shall, within
177 the resources provided to the department:

178 (10) Coordinate with commercial service airports in this
179 state to review and evaluate policies and programs of the United
180 States Transportation Security Administration, including, but
181 not limited to, security screening programs and programs for
182 veterans and active duty servicemembers and their families, to
183 improve efficiency in the security screening process and the
184 overall experience of the flying public.

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185 Section 15. Present subsections (4), (5), and (6) of
186 section 332.0075, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
187 subsections (5), (6), and (7), respectively, and a new
188 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

189 332.0075 Commercial service airports; transparency and
190 accountability; penalty.—

191 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
192 commercial service airport must plan for obtaining and
193 maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the airport,
194 its tenants, and the traveling public. Such plans must include
195 long-term contracts and rights of first refusal regarding the
196 sale of and contingency plans for such resources. For purposes
197 of this paragraph, the term "critical infrastructure resources"
198 includes, but is not limited to, access to electricity, fuel,
199 and water resources.

200 Section 16. Present subsections (1) through (37) of section
201 334.03, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (2)
202 through (38), respectively, a new subsection (1) is added to
203 that section, and present subsection (29) of that section is
204 amended, to read:

205 334.03 Definitions.—When used in the Florida Transportation
206 Code, the term:

207 (1) "Advanced air mobility corridor connection point" means
208 any land area or transportation facility, including any
209 airspace, designated by the department as suitable to support
210 the efficient movement of people and goods by use as a
211 connection point for advanced air mobility.

212 (30)-(29) "Transportation corridor" means any advanced air
213 mobility corridor connection point or any land area designated

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214 by the state, a county, or a municipality which is between two
215 geographic points and which area is used or suitable for the
216 movement of people and goods by one or more modes of
217 transportation, including areas necessary for management of
218 access and securing applicable approvals and permits.

219 Transportation corridors, other than advanced air mobility
220 corridor connection points, shall contain, but are not limited
221 to, the following:

222 (a) Existing publicly owned rights-of-way;
223 (b) All property or property interests necessary for future
224 transportation facilities, including rights of access, air,
225 view, and light, whether public or private, for the purpose of
226 securing and utilizing future transportation rights-of-way,
227 including, but not limited to, any lands reasonably necessary
228 now or in the future for securing applicable approvals and
229 permits, borrow pits, drainage ditches, water retention areas,
230 rest areas, replacement access for landowners whose access could
231 be impaired due to the construction of a future facility, and
232 replacement rights-of-way for relocation of rail and utility
233 facilities.

234 Section 17. Subsections (5), (20), and (21) of section
235 334.044, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (40),
236 (41), and (42) are added to that section, to read:

237 334.044 Powers and duties of the department.—The department
238 shall have the following general powers and duties:

239 (5) To purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property and
240 materials, including the purchase of promotional items as part
241 of public information and education campaigns for the promotion
242 of environmental management, scenic highways, traffic and train



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243 safety awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, workforce
244 development, transportation-related economic development
245 opportunities, advanced air mobility electric vehicle use and
246 charging stations, autonomous vehicles, and context
247 classification for electric vehicles and autonomous vehicles; to
248 purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire equipment and supplies;
249 and to sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any property that
250 is no longer needed by the department.

251 (20) To operate and maintain designated research
252 facilities, to conduct and enter into contracts and agreements
253 for conducting research studies, and to collect data necessary
254 for the improvement of the state transportation system.

255 (21) To conduct and enter into contracts and agreements for
256 conducting research and demonstration projects relative to
257 innovative transportation technologies.

258 (40) To require local governments to submit applications
259 for federal funding for projects on state-owned rights-of-way,
260 roads, bridges, and limited access facilities to the department
261 for review and approval before submission of such applications
262 to the Federal Government.

263 (41) To coordinate with and provide assistance to local
264 governments on the development and review of applications for
265 federal transportation funding to ensure that each project
266 receiving federal funds is consistent with the department's
267 mission, goals, and objectives as provided in s. 334.046.

268 (42) Notwithstanding any other law, to acquire, own,
269 construct, or operate, or any combination thereof, one or more
270 airports as defined in s. 330.27 for the purpose of supporting
271 advanced air mobility. The department may adopt rules to



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272 implement this subsection.

273 Section 18. Section 334.64, Florida Statutes, is created to
274 read:

275 334.64 Department to serve as primary point of contact for
276 LiDAR procurement.—Notwithstanding s. 20.255(9), the department
277 shall serve as the primary point of contact for statewide
278 topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost sharing related to
279 statewide geographic information systems and geospatial data
280 sharing. The department may provide these services to other
281 state and local governmental entities by entering into an
282 interagency agreement consistent with chapter 216.
283 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any
284 charter, ordinance, statute, or special law, all state agencies
285 and local governmental entities conducting programs or
286 exercising powers relating to topographic aerial LiDAR mapping
287 are authorized to enter into an interagency agreement with the
288 department for the provision by the department of topographic
289 aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-sharing services, and to
290 delegate such authority to conduct programs or exercise powers
291 relating to topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-
292 sharing services to the department pursuant to such interagency
293 agreements. The department may adopt rules to implement this
294 section.

295 Section 19. Present paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection
296 (3) of section 338.231, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
297 paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is
298 added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of that subsection
299 is amended, to read:

300 338.231 Turnpike tolls, fixing; pledge of tolls and other



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301 revenues.—The department shall at all times fix, adjust, charge,
302 and collect such tolls and amounts for the use of the turnpike
303 system as are required in order to provide a fund sufficient
304 with other revenues of the turnpike system to pay the cost of
305 maintaining, improving, repairing, and operating such turnpike
306 system; to pay the principal of and interest on all bonds issued
307 to finance or refinance any portion of the turnpike system as
308 the same become due and payable; and to create reserves for all
309 such purposes.

310 (3)(a)1. For the period July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2029
311 2027, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible,
312 program sufficient funds in the tentative work program such that
313 the percentage of turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in
314 Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as
315 compared to total turnpike toll and bond financed commitments
316 shall be at least 90 percent of the share of net toll
317 collections attributable to users of the turnpike system in
318 Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as
319 compared to total net toll collections attributable to users of
320 the turnpike system.

321 2. Beginning in the 2029-2030 fiscal year, the department
322 shall, to the maximum extent feasible, program sufficient funds
323 in the tentative work program such that 100 percent of the share
324 of net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike
325 system in Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach
326 County is used for turnpike toll and bond financed commitments
327 in those counties.

328 This paragraph subsection does not apply when the application of



330 such requirements would violate any covenant established in a
331 resolution or trust indenture relating to the issuance of
332 turnpike bonds.

333 (b) The department may at any time for economic
334 considerations establish lower temporary toll rates for a new or
335 existing toll facility for a period not to exceed 1 year, after
336 which the toll rates adopted pursuant to s. 120.54 shall become
337 effective.

338 Section 20. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and paragraph
339 (d) of subsection (5) of section 339.81, Florida Statutes, are
340 amended to read:

341 339.81 Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network.—
342 (2)

343 (b) The multiuse trails or shared-use paths of the
344 statewide network must be physically separated from motor
345 vehicle traffic and constructed with asphalt, concrete, or
346 another improved hard surface approved by the department.

347 (5)

348 (d) To the greatest extent practicable, the department
349 shall program projects in the work program to plan for
350 development of the entire trail and to minimize the creation of
351 gaps between trail segments. The department shall, at a minimum,
352 ensure that local support exists for projects and trail
353 segments, including the availability or dedication of local
354 funding sources and of contributions by private landowners who
355 agree to make their land, or property interests in such land,
356 available for public use as a trail. The department may also
357 consider any sponsorship agreement entered into pursuant to
358 subsection (7).



359 Section 21. Subsection (16) of section 341.041, Florida
360 Statutes, is amended to read:

361 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the department.—The
362 department shall, within the resources provided pursuant to
363 chapter 216:

364 (16) Unless otherwise provided by state or federal law,
365 ensure that all grants and agreements between the department and
366 entities providing paratransit services to persons with
367 disabilities include, at a minimum, the following provisions:

368 (a) Performance requirements for the delivery of services,
369 including clear penalties for repeated or continuing violations;

370 (b) Minimum liability insurance requirements for all
371 transportation services purchased, provided, or coordinated for
372 the transportation disadvantaged, as defined in s. 427.011(1),
373 through the contracted vendor or subcontractor thereof;

374 (c) Complaint and grievance processes for users of
375 paratransit services for persons with disabilities users,
376 including a requirement that all reported complaints,
377 grievances, and resolutions be reported to the department on a
378 quarterly basis; and

379 (d) A requirement that the provisions of paragraphs (a),
380 (b), and (c) must be included in any agreement between an entity
381 receiving a grant or an agreement from the department and such
382 entity's contractors or subcontractors that provide paratransit
383 services for persons with disabilities.

384

385 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====
386 And the title is amended as follows:

387 Delete lines 20 - 92



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388 and insert:
389 certain streets, roadways, and highways; prohibiting
390 counties and municipalities from enacting, imposing,
391 levying, collecting, or enforcing certain operating
392 fees and advertising regulations; amending s.
393 316.2071, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made
394 by the act; prohibiting a personal delivery device
395 from operating as otherwise authorized unless the
396 personal delivery device meets certain criteria and a
397 human operator is capable of controlling and
398 monitoring its navigation and operation; prohibiting
399 the operation of a personal delivery device on a
400 limited access facility; authorizing rulemaking;
401 amending s. 320.06, F.S.; authorizing certain rental
402 trucks to elect a permanent registration period;
403 repealing s. 322.032, F.S., relating to digital proof
404 of driver license or identification card; amending ss.
405 322.059 and 322.15, F.S.; conforming provisions to
406 changes made by the act; repealing s. 324.252, F.S.,
407 relating to electronic insurance verification;
408 amending s. 330.41, F.S.; prohibiting a political
409 subdivision from withholding issuance of a business
410 tax receipt, development permit, or other land use
411 approval to certain drone delivery services and from
412 enacting or enforcing ordinances or resolutions that
413 prohibit drone delivery service operation; revising
414 construction; providing that the addition of a drone
415 delivery service within a certain parking area does
416 not reduce the number of parking spaces in the parking



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417 area for a certain purpose; amending s. 332.001, F.S.;
418 revising duties of the Department of Transportation
419 relating to airport systems in this state; amending s.
420 332.006, F.S.; requiring the department to coordinate
421 with commercial service airports to review and
422 evaluate certain federal policies and programs;
423 amending s. 332.0075, F.S.; requiring commercial
424 service airports to plan for obtaining and maintaining
425 critical infrastructure resources; providing
426 requirements for such plans; defining the term
427 "critical infrastructure resources"; amending s.
428 334.03, F.S.; defining the term "advanced air mobility
429 corridor connection point"; revising the definition of
430 the term "transportation corridor"; amending s.
431 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the department to purchase,
432 lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials for
433 the promotion of transportation-related economic
434 development opportunities and advanced air mobility;
435 deleting the authority of the department to purchase,
436 lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials for
437 the promotion of electric vehicle use and charging
438 stations; authorizing the department to operate and
439 maintain certain research facilities, enter into
440 certain contracts and agreements, require local
441 governments to submit certain applications for federal
442 funding to the department for review and approval
443 before submission to the Federal Government,
444 coordinate with and provide assistance to local
445 governments on the development and review of certain



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446 applications, and acquire, own, construct, or operate
447 airports for a specified purpose; authorizing the
448 department to adopt rules; creating s. 334.64, F.S.;
449 providing that the department serves as the primary
450 point of contact for statewide topographic aerial
451 LiDAR procurement and certain cost sharing;
452 authorizing the department to provide certain services
453 to other governmental entities through interagency
454 agreements; authorizing rulemaking; amending s.
455 338.231, F.S.; revising the period through which the
456 department, to the extent possible, is required to
457 program sufficient funds in the tentative work program
458 for a specified purpose; requiring the department, to
459 the extent possible, to program sufficient funds in
460 the tentative work program for a specified purpose
461 beginning in a specified fiscal year; amending s.
462 339.81, F.S.; revising construction materials that may
463 be used for certain multiuse trails or shared-use
464 paths; authorizing the department to consider certain
465 sponsorship agreements; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;
466 revising the entities for which the department is
467 required to include in grants and agreements certain
468 provisions; revising such provisions; amending s.
469 790.19, F.S.;

By the Committee on Transportation; and Senator Massullo

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30 trucks to elect a permanent registration period;
31 repealing s. 322.032, F.S., relating to digital proof
32 of driver license or identification card; amending ss.
33 322.059 and 322.15, F.S.; conforming provisions to
34 changes made by the act; repealing s. 324.252, F.S.,
35 relating to electronic insurance verification;
36 amending s. 330.41, F.S.; prohibiting a political
37 subdivision from withholding issuance of a business
38 tax receipt, development permit, or other land use
39 approval to certain drone delivery services and from
40 enacting or enforcing ordinances or resolutions that
41 prohibit drone delivery service operation; revising
42 construction; providing that the addition of a drone
43 delivery service within a certain parking area does
44 not reduce the number of parking spaces in the parking
45 area for a certain purpose; amending s. 332.001, F.S.;
46 revising duties of the Department of Transportation
47 relating to airport systems in this state; amending s.
48 332.006, F.S.; requiring the department to coordinate
49 with commercial service airports to review and
50 evaluate certain federal policies and programs;
51 amending s. 332.0075, F.S.; requiring commercial
52 service airports to plan for obtaining and maintaining
53 critical infrastructure resources; providing
54 requirements for such plans; defining the term
55 "critical infrastructure resources"; amending s.
56 334.03, F.S.; defining the term "advanced air mobility
57 corridor connection point"; revising the definition of
58 the term "transportation corridor"; amending s.

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59 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the department to purchase,
 60 lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials for
 61 the promotion of transportation-related economic
 62 development opportunities and advanced air mobility;
 63 deleting the authority of the department to purchase,
 64 lease, or otherwise acquire property and materials for
 65 the promotion of electric vehicle use and charging
 66 stations; authorizing the department to operate and
 67 maintain certain research facilities, enter into
 68 certain contracts and agreements, require local
 69 governments to submit certain applications for federal
 70 funding to the department for review and approval
 71 before submission to the Federal Government,
 72 coordinate with local governments on the development
 73 and review of certain applications, and acquire, own,
 74 construct, or operate airports; authorizing the
 75 department to adopt rules; creating s. 334.64, F.S.;
 76 providing that the department serves as the primary
 77 point of contact for statewide topographic aerial
 78 LiDAR procurement and certain cost sharing;
 79 authorizing the department to provide certain services
 80 to other governmental entities through interagency
 81 agreements; authorizing rulemaking; amending s.
 82 338.231, F.S.; revising the period through which the
 83 department, to the extent possible, is required to
 84 program sufficient funds in the tentative work program
 85 for a specified purpose; requiring the department, to
 86 the extent possible, to program sufficient funds in
 87 the tentative work program for a specified purpose

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88 beginning in a specified fiscal year; amending s.
 89 339.81, F.S.; revising construction materials that may
 90 be used for certain multiuse trails or shared-use
 91 paths; authorizing the department to consider certain
 92 sponsorship agreements; amending s. 790.19, F.S.;
 93 providing criminal penalties for shooting at, within,
 94 or into, or throwing, hurling, or projecting certain
 95 objects at, within, or in, an autonomous vehicle;
 96 amending s. 806.13, F.S.; providing criminal penalties
 97 for defacing, injuring, or damaging an autonomous
 98 vehicle if the value of the damage is in excess of a
 99 specified amount; requiring the department to conduct
 100 a study to evaluate certain impacts of alternative
 101 fuel vehicles and identify certain policy options;
 102 requiring that the study identify, evaluate, and
 103 analyze certain information; requiring the department
 104 to submit a certain report to the Governor and the
 105 Legislature by a specified date; providing an
 106 appropriation; amending ss. 311.07, 316.0777, 316.515,
 107 336.01, 338.222, 341.8225, 376.3071, 403.7211,
 108 479.261, 715.07, and 1006.23, F.S.; conforming cross-
 109 references; reenacting ss. 320.02(21), 324.021(1), and
 110 324.022(2)(a), F.S., relating to registration
 111 requirements, the definition of the term "motor
 112 vehicle," and financial responsibility for property
 113 damage, respectively, to incorporate the amendment
 114 made to s. 316.003, F.S., in references thereto;
 115 providing an effective date.

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

118
 119 Section 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (4) of section
 120 260.0142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 121 260.0142 Florida Greenways and Trails Council; composition;
 122 powers and duties.—
 123 (4) The duties of the council include the following:
 124 (h) Make recommendations for updating and revising the
 125 implementation plan for the Florida Greenways and Trails System,
 126 including, but not limited to, recommendations for
 127 prioritization of regionally significant trails within the
 128 Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network. The council shall
 129 meet within 90 days after the Department of Transportation
 130 submits its report pursuant to s. 339.81(8) to update its
 131 recommendations for prioritization of regionally significant
 132 trails within the network.

133 Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
 134 311.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 135 311.14 Seaport planning.—
 136 (2) Each port shall develop a strategic plan with a 10-year
 137 horizon. Each plan must include the following:
 138 (b) An infrastructure development and improvement component
 139 that identifies all projected infrastructure improvements within
 140 the plan area which require improvement, expansion, or
 141 development in order for a port to attain a strategic advantage
 142 for competition with national and international competitors.
 143 This component must provide strategies for obtaining and
 144 maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the port and
 145 its tenants. Such strategies must include long-term contracts,

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146 rights of first refusal regarding the sale or lease of property
 147 storing such resources, and contingency plans for obtaining such
 148 resources. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "critical
 149 infrastructure resources," includes, but is not limited to,
 150 access to electricity, fuel, and water resources.

151
 152 To the extent feasible, the port strategic plan must be
 153 consistent with the local government comprehensive plans of the
 154 units of local government in which the port is located. Upon
 155 approval of a plan by the port's board, the plan shall be
 156 submitted to the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic
 157 Development Council.

158 Section 3. Section 311.26, Florida Statutes, is created to
 159 read:

160 311.26 Florida seaport maritime industrial base.—The
 161 Department of Transportation shall coordinate with the
 162 Department of Commerce, the ports specified in s. 311.09, and
 163 the Federal Government to identify and prioritize key maritime
 164 components in the supply chain which are essential to
 165 strengthening and expanding this state's maritime industrial
 166 base. The ports shall support projects prioritized by the
 167 Department of Transportation which will directly support the
 168 building and construction, maintenance, and modernization of
 169 commercial vessels, including cargo vessels, and vessels
 170 designed for national defense. Projects must be evaluated by
 171 their estimated return on invested capital, job creation, and
 172 contribution to the economic competitiveness and national
 173 security interests of this state and the United States.

174 Additional consideration must include the anticipated

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175 enhancement of this state's commercial maritime capabilities.

176 Section 4. Subsection (59) of section 316.003, Florida

177 Statutes, is amended to read:

178 316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when

179 used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively

180 ascribed to them in this section, except where the context

181 otherwise requires:

182 (59) PERSONAL DELIVERY DEVICE.—An electrically powered

183 device that:

184 (a) Is operated on sidewalks, and crosswalks, bicycle

185 lanes, or bicycle paths or on the shoulders of streets,

186 roadways, or highways, not including limited access facilities,

187 and intended primarily for transporting property;

188 (b) Has a weight that does not exceed the maximum weight

189 established by Department of Transportation rule;

190 (c) Operates at ~~Has~~ a maximum speed of 10 miles per hour on

191 sidewalks and crosswalks and 20 miles per hour on bicycle lanes

192 or bicycle paths or on the shoulders of streets, roadways, or

193 highways, not including limited access facilities; and

194 (d) Is equipped with technology to allow for operation of

195 the device with or without the active control or monitoring of a

196 natural person.

197 A personal delivery device is not considered a vehicle unless

198 expressly defined by law as a vehicle. A mobile carrier is not

199 considered a personal delivery device. The Department of

200 Transportation may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

201 Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section

202 316.008, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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204 316.008 Powers of local authorities.—

205 (7)

206 (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., a personal

207 delivery device may be operated on sidewalks, crosswalks,

208 bicycle lanes, and bicycle paths and on the shoulders of

209 streets, roadways, and highways, not including limited access

210 facilities, and a mobile carrier may be operated on sidewalks

211 and crosswalks within a county or municipality when such use is

212 permissible under federal law. This subparagraph ~~paragraph~~ does

213 not restrict a county or municipality from otherwise adopting

214 regulations for the safe operation of personal delivery devices

215 and mobile carriers.

216 2. A personal delivery device may not be operated on the

217 Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network created under s.

218 339.81 or components of the Florida Greenways and Trails System

219 created under chapter 260.

220 Section 6. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 316.2071,

221 Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (5) is added to

222 that section, to read:

223 316.2071 Personal delivery devices and mobile carriers.—

224 (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law ~~to the~~ contrary, a personal delivery device may operate on sidewalks,

225 crosswalks, bicycle lanes, and bicycle paths and on the

226 shoulders of streets, roadways, and highways, not including

227 limited access facilities, and a ~~or~~ mobile carrier may operate

228 on sidewalks and crosswalks, subject to s. 316.008(7)(b). A

229 personal delivery device or mobile carrier operating on a

230 sidewalk or crosswalk has all the rights and duties applicable

231 to a pedestrian under the same circumstances. A, except that the

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 233 personal delivery device or mobile carrier ~~may~~ must not
 234 unreasonably interfere with pedestrians, bicycles, or motor
 235 vehicles ~~traffic~~ and must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians
 236 ~~on the sidewalk or crosswalk.~~

237 (3) (a) A personal delivery device and a mobile carrier may
 238 not do any of the following:
 239 1.(a) Operate on a sidewalk, crosswalk, bicycle lane, or
 240 bicycle path or on the shoulder of a street, roadway, or highway
 241 unless the personal delivery device meets minimum criteria
 242 established by the Department of Transportation and a human
 243 operator is capable of controlling and monitoring the navigation
 244 and operation of the personal delivery device public highway
 245 except to the extent necessary to cross a crosswalk.

246 2. Transport hazardous materials as defined in s. 316.003.

247 3. Operate on a limited access facility.

248 (b) A mobile carrier may not do any of the following:

249 1. Operate on a public highway except to the extent
 250 necessary to cross a crosswalk.

251 2. Operate on a sidewalk or crosswalk unless the personal
 252 delivery device operator is actively controlling or monitoring
 253 the navigation and operation of the personal delivery device or
 254 a mobile carrier owner remains within 25 feet of the mobile
 255 carrier.

256 3.(e) Transport hazardous materials as defined in s.
 257 316.003.

258 4.(d) ~~For mobile carriers,~~ Transport persons or animals.

259 5. The Department of Transportation may adopt rules to
 260 implement this section.

261 Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section

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 262 320.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

263 320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and
 264 validation stickers generally.—

265 (1)

266 (b)1. Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol
 267 and the alphanumeric system of identification shall be issued
 268 for a 10-year period. At the end of the 10-year period, upon
 269 renewal, the plate shall be replaced. The department shall
 270 extend the scheduled license plate replacement date from a 6-
 271 year period to a 10-year period. The fee for such replacement is
 272 \$28, \$2.80 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is
 273 replaced, to be credited toward the next \$28 replacement fee.
 274 The fees shall be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating
 275 Trust Fund. A credit or refund may not be given for any prior
 276 years' payments of the prorated replacement fee if the plate is
 277 replaced or surrendered before the end of the 10-year period,
 278 except that a credit may be given if a registrant is required by
 279 the department to replace a license plate under s.

280 320.08056(8)(a). With each license plate, a validation sticker
 281 shall be issued showing the owner's birth month, license plate
 282 number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal
 283 period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation
 284 sticker shall be placed on the upper right corner of the license
 285 plate. The license plate and validation sticker shall be issued
 286 based on the applicant's appropriate renewal period. The
 287 registration period is 12 months, the extended registration
 288 period is 24 months, and all expirations occur based on the
 289 applicant's appropriate registration period. Rental vehicles
 290 taxed pursuant to s. 320.08(6)(a) and rental trucks taxed

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291 pursuant to s. 320.08(3) (a)-(c) and (4) (a)-(f) ~~(4) (a)-(d)~~ may
 292 elect a permanent registration period, provided payment of the
 293 appropriate license taxes and fees occurs annually.

294 2. Beginning July 1, 2024, a vehicle registered in
 295 accordance with the International Registration Plan must be
 296 issued a license plate for a 3-year period. At the end of the 3-
 297 year period, upon renewal, the license plate must be replaced.
 298 Each license plate must include a validation sticker showing the
 299 month of expiration. A cab card denoting the declared gross
 300 vehicle weight for each apportioned jurisdiction must be issued
 301 annually. The fee for an original or a renewal cab card is \$28,
 302 which must be deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust
 303 Fund. If the license plate is damaged or worn, it may be
 304 replaced at no charge by applying to the department and
 305 surrendering the current license plate.

306 3. In order to retain the efficient administration of the
 307 taxes and fees imposed by this chapter, the 80-cent fee increase
 308 in the replacement fee imposed by chapter 2009-71, Laws of
 309 Florida, is negated as provided in s. 320.0804.

310 Section 8. Section 322.032, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

311 Section 9. Section 322.059, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 312 read:

313 322.059 Mandatory surrender of suspended driver license and
 314 registration.—A person whose driver license or registration has
 315 been suspended as provided in s. 322.058 must immediately return
 316 his or her driver license and registration to the Department of
 317 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. The department shall
 318 invalidate the digital proof of driver license issued pursuant
 319 to s. 322.032 for such person. If such person fails to return

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320 his or her driver license or registration, a law enforcement
 321 agent may seize the license or registration while the driver
 322 license or registration is suspended.

323 Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 322.15, Florida
 324 Statutes, is amended to read:

325 322.15 License to be carried and exhibited on demand;
 326 fingerprint to be imprinted upon a citation.—

327 (1) Every licensee shall have his or her driver license,
 328 which must be fully legible with no portion of such license
 329 faded, altered, mutilated, or defaced, in his or her immediate
 330 possession at all times when operating a motor vehicle and shall
 331 present or submit the same upon the demand of a law enforcement
 332 officer or an authorized representative of the department. A
 333 licensee ~~may present or submit a digital proof of driver license~~
 334 ~~as provided in s. 322.032 in lieu of his or her printed driver~~
 335 ~~license; however, if the law enforcement officer or authorized~~
 336 ~~representative of the department is unable to immediately verify~~
 337 ~~the digital proof of driver license, upon the demand of the law~~
 338 ~~enforcement officer or authorized representative of the~~
 339 ~~department, the licensee must present or submit his or her~~
 340 ~~printed driver license.~~

341 Section 11. Section 324.252, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

342 Section 12. Present paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of
 343 section 330.41, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph
 344 (e), a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, and
 345 paragraph (c) of that subsection is amended, to read:

346 330.41 Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act.—

347 (3) REGULATION.—

348 (c) Except as otherwise expressly provided, a political

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349 subdivision may not withhold issuance of a business tax receipt,
 350 development permit, or other land use approval to a drone
 351 delivery service on a commercial property or enact or enforce an
 352 ordinance or a resolution that prohibits a drone delivery
 353 service's operation based on the location of its drone port,
 354 notwithstanding part II of chapter 163 and chapter 205. A
 355 political subdivision may enforce minimum setback and
 356 landscaping regulations that are generally applicable to
 357 permitted uses in the applicable drone port site's zoning
 358 district. This paragraph may not be construed to authorize a
 359 political subdivision to require additional landscaping as a
 360 condition of approval of a drone delivery service on a
 361 commercial property port.

362 (d) The addition of a drone delivery service within the
 363 parking area of a commercial property does not reduce the number
 364 of parking spaces in the parking area for the purpose of
 365 complying with any requirement for a minimum number of parking
 366 spaces.

367 Section 13. Subsection (1) of section 332.001, Florida
 368 Statutes, is amended to read:

369 332.001 Aviation; powers and duties of the Department of
 370 Transportation.—

371 (1) It shall be the duty, function, and responsibility of
 372 the Department of Transportation to plan and direct investments
 373 in airport systems in this state to facilitate the efficient
 374 movement of passengers and cargo and to continuously improve the
 375 experience for the flying public and the supply chain of this
 376 state's businesses. In carrying out this duty and
 377 responsibility, the department may assist and advise, cooperate,

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378 and coordinate with the federal, state, local, or private
 379 organizations and individuals in planning such systems of
 380 airports.

381 Section 14. Subsection (10) is added to section 332.006,
 382 Florida Statutes, to read:

383 332.006 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of
 384 Transportation.—The Department of Transportation shall, within
 385 the resources provided to the department:

386 (10) Coordinate with commercial service airports in this
 387 state to review and evaluate policies and programs of the United
 388 States Transportation Security Administration, including, but
 389 not limited to, security screening programs and programs for
 390 veterans and active duty servicemembers and their families, to
 391 improve efficiency in the security screening process and the
 392 overall experience of the flying public.

393 Section 15. Present subsections (4), (5), and (6) of
 394 section 332.0075, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 395 subsections (5), (6), and (7), respectively, and a new
 396 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

397 332.0075 Commercial service airports; transparency and
 398 accountability; penalty.—

399 (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
 400 commercial service airport must plan for obtaining and
 401 maintaining critical infrastructure resources for the airport,
 402 its tenants, and the traveling public. Such plans must include
 403 long-term contracts and rights of first refusal regarding the
 404 sale of and contingency plans for such resources. For purposes
 405 of this paragraph, the term "critical infrastructure resources"
 406 includes, but is not limited to, access to electricity, fuel,

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407 and water resources.

408 Section 16. Present subsections (1) through (37) of section
409 334.03, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (2),
410 through (38), respectively, a new subsection (1) is added to
411 that section, and present subsection (29) of that section is
412 amended, to read:

413 334.03 Definitions.—When used in the Florida Transportation
414 Code, the term:

415 (1) "Advanced air mobility corridor connection point" means
416 any land area or transportation facility, including any
417 airspace, designated by the department as suitable to support
418 the efficient movement of people and goods by use as a
419 connection point for advanced air mobility.

420 (30)-(29) "Transportation corridor" means any advanced air
421 mobility corridor connection point or any land area designated
422 by the state, a county, or a municipality which is between two
423 geographic points and which area is used or suitable for the
424 movement of people and goods by one or more modes of
425 transportation, including areas necessary for management of
426 access and securing applicable approvals and permits.
427 Transportation corridors, other than advanced air mobility
428 corridor connection points, shall contain, but are not limited
429 to, the following:

430 (a) Existing publicly owned rights-of-way;

431 (b) All property or property interests necessary for future
432 transportation facilities, including rights of access, air,
433 view, and light, whether public or private, for the purpose of
434 securing and utilizing future transportation rights-of-way,
435 including, but not limited to, any lands reasonably necessary

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436 now or in the future for securing applicable approvals and
437 permits, borrow pits, drainage ditches, water retention areas,
438 rest areas, replacement access for landowners whose access could
439 be impaired due to the construction of a future facility, and
440 replacement rights-of-way for relocation of rail and utility
441 facilities.

442 Section 17. Subsections (5), (20), and (21) of section
443 334.044, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsections (40),
444 (41), and (42) are added to that section, to read:

445 334.044 Powers and duties of the department.—The department
446 shall have the following general powers and duties:

447 (5) To purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire property and
448 materials, including the purchase of promotional items as part
449 of public information and education campaigns for the promotion
450 of environmental management, scenic highways, traffic and train
451 safety awareness, commercial motor vehicle safety, workforce
452 development, transportation-related economic development
453 opportunities, advanced air mobility electric vehicle use and
454 charging stations, autonomous vehicles, and context
455 classification for electric vehicles and autonomous vehicles; to
456 purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire equipment and supplies;
457 and to sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of any property that
458 is no longer needed by the department.

459 (20) To operate and maintain designated research
460 facilities, to conduct and enter into contracts and agreements
461 for conducting research studies, and to collect data necessary
462 for the improvement of the state transportation system.

463 (21) To conduct and enter into contracts and agreements for
464 conducting research and demonstration projects relative to

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465 innovative transportation technologies.

466 (40) To require local governments to submit applications
 467 for federal funding for projects on state-owned rights-of-way,
 468 roads, bridges, and limited access facilities to the department
 469 for review and approval before submission of such applications
 470 to the Federal Government.

471 (41) To coordinate with local governments on the
 472 development and review of applications for federal
 473 transportation funding to ensure that each project receiving
 474 federal funds will benefit the state's transportation system by
 475 reducing congestion or providing other infrastructure
 476 improvements.

477 (42) Notwithstanding any other law, to acquire, own,
 478 construct, or operate, or any combination thereof, one or more
 479 airports as defined in s. 330.27, including, without limitation,
 480 for purposes of supporting advanced air mobility. The department
 481 may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

482 Section 18. Section 334.64, Florida Statutes, is created to
 483 read:

484 334.64 Department to serve as primary point of contact for
 485 LiDAR procurement.—Notwithstanding s. 20.255(9), the department
 486 shall serve as the primary point of contact for statewide
 487 topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost sharing related to
 488 statewide geographic information systems and geospatial data
 489 sharing. The department may provide these services to other
 490 state and local governmental entities by entering into an
 491 interagency agreement consistent with chapter 216.
 492 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any
 493 charter, ordinance, statute, or special law, all state agencies

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494 and local governmental entities conducting programs or
 495 exercising powers relating to topographic aerial LiDAR mapping
 496 are authorized to enter into an interagency agreement with the
 497 department for the provision by the department of topographic
 498 aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-sharing services, and to
 499 delegate such authority to conduct programs or exercise powers
 500 relating to topographic aerial LiDAR procurement and cost-
 501 sharing services to the department pursuant to such interagency
 502 agreements. The department may adopt rules to implement this
 503 section.

504 Section 19. Present paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection
 505 (3) of section 338.231, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as
 506 paragraphs (c) and (d), respectively, a new paragraph (b) is
 507 added to that subsection, and paragraph (a) of that subsection
 508 is amended, to read:

509 338.231 Turnpike tolls, fixing; pledge of tolls and other
 510 revenues.—The department shall at all times fix, adjust, charge,
 511 and collect such tolls and amounts for the use of the turnpike
 512 system as are required in order to provide a fund sufficient
 513 with other revenues of the turnpike system to pay the cost of
 514 maintaining, improving, repairing, and operating such turnpike
 515 system; to pay the principal of and interest on all bonds issued
 516 to finance or refinance any portion of the turnpike system as
 517 the same become due and payable; and to create reserves for all
 518 such purposes.

519 (3)(a)1. For the period July 1, 1998, through June 30, 2029
 520 2027, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible,
 521 program sufficient funds in the tentative work program such that
 522 the percentage of turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in

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 523 Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as
 524 compared to total turnpike toll and bond financed commitments
 525 shall be at least 90 percent of the share of net toll
 526 collections attributable to users of the turnpike system in
 527 Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as
 528 compared to total net toll collections attributable to users of
 529 the turnpike system.

530 2. Beginning in the 2029-2030 fiscal year, the department
 531 shall, to the maximum extent feasible, program sufficient funds
 532 in the tentative work program such that 100 percent of the share
 533 of net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike
 534 system in Miami-Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach
 535 County is used for turnpike toll and bond financed commitments
 536 in those counties.

537 This paragraph subsection does not apply when the application of
 538 such requirements would violate any covenant established in a
 539 resolution or trust indenture relating to the issuance of
 540 turnpike bonds.

542 (b) The department may at any time for economic
 543 considerations establish lower temporary toll rates for a new or
 544 existing toll facility for a period not to exceed 1 year, after
 545 which the toll rates adopted pursuant to s. 120.54 shall become
 546 effective.

547 Section 20. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and paragraph
 548 (d) of subsection (5) of section 339.81, Florida Statutes, are
 549 amended to read:

550 339.81 Florida Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network.—
 551 (2)

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 552 (b) The multiuse trails or shared-use paths of the
 553 statewide network must be physically separated from motor
 554 vehicle traffic and constructed with asphalt, concrete, or
 555 another improved hard surface approved by the department.

556 (5)
 557 (d) To the greatest extent practicable, the department
 558 shall program projects in the work program to plan for
 559 development of the entire trail and to minimize the creation of
 560 gaps between trail segments. The department shall, at a minimum,
 561 ensure that local support exists for projects and trail
 562 segments, including the availability or dedication of local
 563 funding sources and of contributions by private landowners who
 564 agree to make their land, or property interests in such land,
 565 available for public use as a trail. The department may also
 566 consider any sponsorship agreement entered into pursuant to
 567 subsection (7).

568 Section 21. Section 790.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 569 read:

570 790.19 Shooting into or throwing deadly missiles into
 571 dwellings, public or private buildings, occupied or not
 572 occupied; vessels, aircraft, buses, railroad cars, streetcars,
 573 or other vehicles.—A person who Whoever, wantonly or
 574 maliciously, shoots at, within, or into, or throws a any missile
 575 or hurls or projects a stone or other hard substance which would
 576 produce death or great bodily harm, at, within, or in a any
 577 public or private building, occupied or unoccupied; a, or public
 578 or private bus or a any train, locomotive, railway car, caboose,
 579 cable railway car, street railway car, monorail car, or vehicle
 580 of any kind which is being used or occupied by a any person; an

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 581 ~~autonomous vehicle, occupied or unoccupied; a, or any boat,~~
 582 ~~vessel, ship, or barge lying in or plying the waters of this~~
 583 ~~state; or an aircraft flying through the airspace of this state~~
 584 ~~commits shall be guilty of a felony of the second degree,~~
 585 ~~punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.~~

586 Section 22. Present subsections (8) through (12) of section
 587 806.13, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (9)
 588 through (13), respectively, a new subsection (8) is added to
 589 that section, and present subsection (11) of that section is
 590 amended, to read:

591 806.13 Criminal mischief; penalties; penalty for minor.—
 592 (8) A person who willfully or maliciously defaces, injures,
 593 or damages by any means an autonomous vehicle as defined in s.
 594 316.003(3)(a) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable
 595 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, if the
 596 damage to the vehicle is greater than \$200.

597 (12)(11) A minor whose driver license or driving privilege
 598 is revoked, suspended, or withheld under subsection (11) (10)
 599 may elect to reduce the period of revocation, suspension, or
 600 withholding by performing community service at the rate of 1 day
 601 for each hour of community service performed. In addition, if
 602 the court determines that due to a family hardship, the minor's
 603 driver license or driving privilege is necessary for employment
 604 or medical purposes of the minor or a member of the minor's
 605 family, the court shall order the minor to perform community
 606 service and reduce the period of revocation, suspension, or
 607 withholding at the rate of 1 day for each hour of community
 608 service performed. As used in this subsection, the term
 609 "community service" means cleaning graffiti from public

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 610 ~~property.~~

611 Section 23. The Department of Transportation shall conduct
 612 a study to evaluate the long-term impact of alternative fuel
 613 vehicles on state transportation revenues and identify potential
 614 policy options to address projected revenue reductions.

615 (1) The study must:
 616 (a) Identify the projected impact of specific alternative
 617 fuel vehicle types and the corresponding projected impact on
 618 state transportation revenues.

619 (b) Evaluate new transportation revenue models, including,
 620 but not limited to, alternative fuel vehicle-specific
 621 registration fees and taxes; technological and industry
 622 partnerships that could facilitate fees based on miles-per-
 623 gallon usage equivalences; and revenue models that are based on
 624 vehicle miles-based taxes.

625 (c) Analyze the advantages, disadvantages, and projected
 626 revenue impacts from each transportation revenue model.

627 (2) By January 1, 2027, the department shall submit a
 628 report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
 629 Speaker of the House of Representatives providing the results of
 630 the study.

631 Section 24. For the 2026-2027 fiscal year, the sum of
 632 \$300,000 in nonrecurring funds is appropriated from the State
 633 Transportation Trust Fund to the Department of Transportation
 634 for the purpose of studying alternative fuel vehicles and
 635 methods to receive transportation revenues from users of such
 636 vehicles.

637 Section 25. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
 638 311.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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639 311.07 Florida seaport transportation and economic
 640 development funding.—
 641 (3)
 642 (b) Projects eligible for funding by grants under the
 643 program are limited to the following port facilities or port
 644 transportation projects:
 645 1. Transportation facilities within the jurisdiction of the
 646 port.
 647 2. The dredging or deepening of channels, turning basins,
 648 or harbors.
 649 3. The construction or rehabilitation of wharves, docks,
 650 structures, jetties, piers, storage facilities, cruise
 651 terminals, automated people mover systems, or any facilities
 652 necessary or useful in connection with any of the foregoing.
 653 4. The acquisition of vessel tracking systems, container
 654 cranes, or other mechanized equipment used in the movement of
 655 cargo or passengers in international commerce.
 656 5. The acquisition of land to be used for port purposes.
 657 6. The acquisition, improvement, enlargement, or extension
 658 of existing port facilities.
 659 7. Environmental protection projects which are necessary
 660 because of requirements imposed by a state agency as a condition
 661 of a permit or other form of state approval; which are necessary
 662 for environmental mitigation required as a condition of a state,
 663 federal, or local environmental permit; which are necessary for
 664 the acquisition of spoil disposal sites and improvements to
 665 existing and future spoil sites; or which result from the
 666 funding of eligible projects listed in this paragraph.
 667 8. Transportation facilities as defined in s. 334.03 s.

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668 s. 334.03(30) which are not otherwise part of the Department of
 669 Transportation's adopted work program.
 670 9. Intermodal access projects.
 671 10. Construction or rehabilitation of port facilities as
 672 defined in s. 315.02, excluding any park or recreational
 673 facilities, in ports listed in s. 311.09(1) with operating
 674 revenues of \$5 million or less, provided that such projects
 675 create economic development opportunities, capital improvements,
 676 and positive financial returns to such ports.
 677 11. Seaport master plan or strategic plan development or
 678 updates, including the purchase of data to support such plans.
 679 12. Spaceport or space industry-related planning or
 680 construction of facilities on seaport property which are
 681 necessary or useful for advancing the space industry in this
 682 state and provide an economic benefit to this state.
 683 13. Commercial shipbuilding and manufacturing facilities on
 684 seaport property, if such projects provide an economic benefit
 685 to the community in which the seaport is located.
 686 Section 26. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
 687 316.0777, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 688 316.0777 Automated license plate recognition systems;
 689 installation within rights-of-way of State Highway System;
 690 public records exemption.—
 691 (2)
 692 (b) At the discretion of the Department of Transportation,
 693 an automated license plate recognition system may be installed
 694 within the right-of-way, as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(21),
 695 of a road on the State Highway System when installed at the
 696 request of a law enforcement agency for the purpose of

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 697 collecting active criminal intelligence information or active
 698 criminal investigative information as defined in s. 119.011(3).
 699 An automated license plate recognition system may not be used to
 700 issue a notice of violation for a traffic infraction or a
 701 uniform traffic citation. Such installation must be in
 702 accordance with placement and installation guidelines developed
 703 by the Department of Transportation. An automated license plate
 704 recognition system must be removed within 30 days after the
 705 Department of Transportation notifies the requesting law
 706 enforcement agency that such removal must occur.

707 Section 27. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section
 708 316.515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

709 316.515 Maximum width, height, length.—

710 (5) IMPLEMENTS OF HUSBANDRY AND FARM EQUIPMENT;
 711 AGRICULTURAL TRAILERS; FORESTRY EQUIPMENT; SAFETY REQUIREMENTS.—

712 (c) The width and height limitations of this section do not
 713 apply to farming or agricultural equipment, whether self-
 714 propelled, pulled, or hauled, when temporarily operated during
 715 daylight hours upon a public road that is not a limited access
 716 facility as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(12), and the width
 717 and height limitations may be exceeded by such equipment without
 718 a permit. To be eligible for this exemption, the equipment shall
 719 be operated within a radius of 50 miles of the real property
 720 owned, rented, managed, harvested, or leased by the equipment
 721 owner. However, equipment being delivered by a dealer to a
 722 purchaser is not subject to the 50-mile limitation. Farming or
 723 agricultural equipment greater than 174 inches in width must
 724 have one warning lamp mounted on each side of the equipment to
 725 denote the width and must have a slow-moving vehicle sign.

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 726 Warning lamps required by this paragraph must be visible from
 727 the front and rear of the vehicle and must be visible from a
 728 distance of at least 1,000 feet.

729 Section 28. Section 336.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 730 read:

731 336.01 Designation of county road system.—The county road
 732 system shall be as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(8).

733 Section 29. Subsection (2) of section 338.222, Florida
 734 Statutes, is amended to read:

735 338.222 Department of Transportation sole governmental
 736 entity to acquire, construct, or operate turnpike projects;
 737 exception.—

738 (2) The department may, but is not required to, contract
 739 with any local governmental entity as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(13) for the design, right-of-way acquisition, transfer,
 740 purchase, sale, acquisition, or other conveyance of the
 741 ownership, operation, maintenance, or construction of any
 742 turnpike project which the Legislature has approved. Local
 743 governmental entities may negotiate and contract with the
 744 department for the design, right-of-way acquisition, transfer,
 745 purchase, sale, acquisition, or other conveyance of the
 746 ownership, operation, maintenance, or construction of any
 747 section of the turnpike project within areas of their respective
 748 jurisdictions or within counties with which they have interlocal
 749 agreements.

751 Section 30. Subsection (2) of section 341.8225, Florida
 752 Statutes, is amended to read:

753 341.8225 Department of Transportation sole governmental
 754 entity to acquire, construct, or operate high-speed rail

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755 projects; exception.—

756 (2) Local governmental entities, as defined in s. 334.03 et al.
334.03(13), may negotiate with the department for the design,
757 right-of-way acquisition, and construction of any component of
758 the high-speed rail system within areas of their respective
759 jurisdictions or within counties with which they have interlocal
760 agreements.

761 Section 31. Paragraph (b) of subsection (12) of section
762 376.3071, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

763 376.3071 Inland Protection Trust Fund; creation; purposes;
764 funding.—

765 (12) SITE CLEANUP.—

766 (b) *Low-scored site initiative.*—Notwithstanding subsections
767 (5) and (6), a site with a priority ranking score of 29 points
768 or less may voluntarily participate in the low-scored site
769 initiative regardless of whether the site is eligible for state
770 restoration funding.

771 1. To participate in the low-scored site initiative, the
772 property owner, or a responsible party who provides evidence of
773 authorization from the property owner, must submit a "No Further
774 Action" proposal and affirmatively demonstrate that the
775 conditions imposed under subparagraph 4. are met.

776 2. Upon affirmative demonstration that the conditions
777 imposed under subparagraph 4. are met, the department shall
778 issue a site rehabilitation completion order incorporating the
779 "No Further Action" proposal submitted by the property owner or
780 the responsible party, who must provide evidence of
781 authorization from the property owner. If no contamination is
782 detected, the department may issue a site rehabilitation

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784 completion order.

785 3. Sites that are eligible for state restoration funding
786 may receive payment of costs for the low-scored site initiative
787 as follows:

788 a. A property owner, or a responsible party who provides
789 evidence of authorization from the property owner, may submit an
790 assessment and limited remediation plan designed to
791 affirmatively demonstrate that the site meets the conditions
792 imposed under subparagraph 4. Notwithstanding the priority
793 ranking score of the site, the department may approve the cost
794 of the assessment and limited remediation, including up to 12
795 months of groundwater monitoring and 12 months of limited
796 remediation activities in one or more task assignments or
797 modifications thereof, not to exceed the threshold amount
798 provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO, for each site where the
799 department has determined that the assessment and limited
800 remediation, if applicable, will likely result in a
801 determination of "No Further Action." The department may not pay
802 the costs associated with the establishment of institutional or
803 engineering controls other than the costs associated with a
804 professional land survey or a specific purpose survey, if such
805 is needed, and the costs associated with obtaining a title
806 report and paying recording fees.

807 b. After the approval of initial site assessment results
808 provided pursuant to state funding under sub-subparagraph a.,
809 the department may approve an additional amount not to exceed
810 the threshold amount provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY TWO for
811 limited remediation needed to achieve a determination of "No
812 Further Action."

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813 c. The assessment and limited remediation work shall be completed no later than 15 months after the department 814 authorizes the start of a state-funded, low-score site 815 initiative task. If groundwater monitoring is required after the 816 assessment and limited remediation in order to satisfy the 817 conditions under subparagraph 4., the department may authorize 818 an additional 12 months to complete the monitoring.

819 d. No more than \$15 million for the low-scored site 820 initiative may be encumbered from the fund in any fiscal year. 821 Funds shall be made available on a first-come, first-served 822 basis and shall be limited to 10 sites in each fiscal year for 823 each property owner or each responsible party who provides 824 evidence of authorization from the property owner.

825 e. Program deductibles, copayments, and the limited 826 contamination assessment report requirements under paragraph 827 (13) (d) do not apply to expenditures under this paragraph.

828 4. The department shall issue an order incorporating the 829 "No Further Action" proposal submitted by a property owner or a 830 responsible party who provides evidence of authorization from 831 the property owner upon affirmative demonstration that all of 832 the following conditions are met:

833 a. Soil saturated with petroleum or petroleum products, or 834 soil that causes a total corrected hydrocarbon measurement of 835 500 parts per million or higher for the Gasoline Analytical 836 Group or 50 parts per million or higher for the Kerosene 837 Analytical Group, as defined by department rule, does not exist 838 onsite as a result of a release of petroleum products.

839 b. A minimum of 12 months of groundwater monitoring 840 indicates that the plume is shrinking or stable.

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842 c. The release of petroleum products at the site does not 843 adversely affect adjacent surface waters, including their 844 effects on human health and the environment.

845 d. The area containing the petroleum products' chemicals of 846 concern:

847 (I) Is confined to the source property boundaries of the 848 real property on which the discharge originated, unless the 849 property owner has requested or authorized a more limited area 850 in the "No Further Action" proposal submitted under this 851 subsection; or

852 (II) Has migrated from the source property onto or beneath 853 a transportation facility as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(30) 854 for which the department has approved, and the governmental 855 entity owning the transportation facility has agreed to 856 institutional controls as defined in s. 376.301(21). This sub- 857 sub-subparagraph does not, however, impose any legal liability 858 on the transportation facility owner, obligate such owner to 859 engage in remediation, or waive such owner's right to recover 860 costs for damages.

861 e. The groundwater contamination containing the petroleum 862 products' chemicals of concern is not a threat to any permitted 863 potable water supply well.

864 f. Soils onsite found between land surface and 2 feet below 865 land surface which are subject to human exposure meet the soil 866 cleanup target levels established in subparagraph (5)(b)9., or 867 human exposure is limited by appropriate institutional or 868 engineering controls.

869

870 Issuance of a site rehabilitation completion order under this

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871 paragraph acknowledges that minimal contamination exists onsite
 872 and that such contamination is not a threat to the public
 873 health, safety, or welfare; water resources; or the environment.
 874 Pursuant to subsection (4), the issuance of the site
 875 rehabilitation completion order, with or without conditions,
 876 does not alter eligibility for state-funded rehabilitation that
 877 would otherwise be applicable under this section.

878 Section 32. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 879 403.7211, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

880 403.7211 Hazardous waste facilities managing hazardous
 881 wastes generated offsite; federal facilities managing hazardous
 882 waste.—

883 (2) The department may not issue any permit under s.
 884 403.722 for the construction, initial operation, or substantial
 885 modification of a facility for the disposal, storage, or
 886 treatment of hazardous waste generated offsite which is proposed
 887 to be located in any of the following locations:

888 (a) Any area where life-threatening concentrations of
 889 hazardous substances could accumulate at any residence or
 890 residential subdivision as the result of a catastrophic event at
 891 the proposed facility, unless each such residence or residential
 892 subdivision is served by at least one arterial road or urban
 893 minor arterial road, as determined under the procedures
 894 referenced in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(10), which provides safe and
 895 direct egress by land to an area where such life-threatening
 896 concentrations of hazardous substances could not accumulate in a
 897 catastrophic event. Egress by any road leading from any
 898 residence or residential subdivision to any point located within
 899 1,000 yards of the proposed facility is unsafe for the purposes

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596-02460-26

20261220c1

900 of this paragraph. In determining whether egress proposed by the
 901 applicant is safe and direct, the department shall also
 902 consider, at a minimum, the following factors:

903 1. Natural barriers such as water bodies, and whether any
 904 road in the proposed evacuation route is impaired by a natural
 905 barrier such as a water body.

906 2. Potential exposure during egress and potential increases
 907 in the duration of exposure.

908 3. Whether any road in a proposed evacuation route passes
 909 in close proximity to the facility.

910 4. Whether any portion of the evacuation route is
 911 inherently directed toward the facility.

912 For the purposes of this subsection, all distances shall be
 913 measured from the outer limit of the active hazardous waste
 914 management area. "Substantial modification" includes: any
 915 physical change in, change in the operations of, or addition to
 916 a facility which could increase the potential offsite impact, or
 917 risk of impact, from a release at that facility; and any change
 918 in permit conditions which is reasonably expected to lead to
 919 greater potential impacts or risks of impacts, from a release at
 920 that facility. "Substantial modification" does not include a
 921 change in operations, structures, or permit conditions which
 922 does not substantially increase either the potential impact
 923 from, or the risk of, a release. Physical or operational changes
 924 to a facility related solely to the management of nonhazardous
 925 waste at the facility is not considered a substantial
 926 modification. The department shall, by rule, adopt criteria to
 927 determine whether a facility has been substantially modified.

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929 "Initial operation" means the initial commencement of operations
 930 at the facility.

931 Section 33. Subsection (5) of section 479.261, Florida
 932 Statutes, is amended to read:

933 479.261 Logo sign program.—

934 (5) At a minimum, permit fees for businesses that
 935 participate in the program must be established in an amount
 936 sufficient to offset the total cost to the department for the
 937 program, including contract costs. The department shall provide
 938 the services in the most efficient and cost-effective manner
 939 through department staff or by contracting for some or all of
 940 the services. The department shall adopt rules that set
 941 reasonable rates based upon factors such as population, traffic
 942 volume, market demand, and costs for annual permit fees.
 943 However, annual permit fees for sign locations inside an urban
 944 area, as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(31), may not exceed
 945 \$3,500, and annual permit fees for sign locations outside an
 946 urban area, as defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(31), may not
 947 exceed \$2,000. After recovering program costs, the proceeds from
 948 the annual permit fees shall be deposited into the State
 949 Transportation Trust Fund and used for transportation purposes.

950 Section 34. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 951 715.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

952 715.07 Vehicles or vessels parked on private property;
 953 towing.—

954 (2) The owner or lessee of real property, or any person
 955 authorized by the owner or lessee, which person may be the
 956 designated representative of the condominium association if the
 957 real property is a condominium, may cause any vehicle or vessel

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958 parked on such property without her or his permission to be
 959 removed by a person regularly engaged in the business of towing
 960 vehicles or vessels, without liability for the costs of removal,
 961 transportation, or storage or damages caused by such removal,
 962 transportation, or storage, under any of the following
 963 circumstances:

964 (a) The towing or removal of any vehicle or vessel from
 965 private property without the consent of the registered owner or
 966 other legally authorized person in control of that vehicle or
 967 vessel is subject to substantial compliance with the following
 968 conditions and restrictions:

969 1.a. Any towed or removed vehicle or vessel must be stored
 970 at a site within a 10-mile radius of the point of removal in any
 971 county of 500,000 population or more, and within a 15-mile
 972 radius of the point of removal in any county of fewer than
 973 500,000 population. That site must be open for the purpose of
 974 redemption of vehicles on any day that the person or firm towing
 975 such vehicle or vessel is open for towing purposes, from 8:00
 976 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., and, when closed, shall have prominently
 977 posted a sign indicating a telephone number where the operator
 978 of the site can be reached at all times. Upon receipt of a
 979 telephoned request to open the site to redeem a vehicle or
 980 vessel, the operator shall return to the site within 1 hour or
 981 she or he will be in violation of this section.

982 b. If no towing business providing such service is located
 983 within the area of towing limitations set forth in sub-
 984 subparagraph a., the following limitations apply: any towed or
 985 removed vehicle or vessel must be stored at a site within a 20-
 986 mile radius of the point of removal in any county of 500,000

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987 population or more, and within a 30-mile radius of the point of
 988 removal in any county of fewer than 500,000 population.

989 2. The person or firm towing or removing the vehicle or
 990 vessel shall, within 30 minutes after completion of such towing
 991 or removal, notify the municipal police department or, in an
 992 unincorporated area, the sheriff, of such towing or removal, the
 993 storage site, the time the vehicle or vessel was towed or
 994 removed, and the make, model, color, and license plate number of
 995 the vehicle or description and registration number of the vessel
 996 and shall obtain the name of the person at that department to
 997 whom such information was reported and note that name on the
 998 trip record.

999 3. A person in the process of towing or removing a vehicle
 1000 or vessel from the premises or parking lot in which the vehicle
 1001 or vessel is not lawfully parked must stop when a person seeks
 1002 the return of the vehicle or vessel. The vehicle or vessel must
 1003 be returned upon the payment of a reasonable service fee of not
 1004 more than one-half of the posted rate for the towing or removal
 1005 service as provided in subparagraph 6. The vehicle or vessel may
 1006 be towed or removed if, after a reasonable opportunity, the
 1007 owner or legally authorized person in control of the vehicle or
 1008 vessel is unable to pay the service fee. If the vehicle or
 1009 vessel is redeemed, a detailed signed receipt must be given to
 1010 the person redeeming the vehicle or vessel.

1011 4. A person may not pay or accept money or other valuable
 1012 consideration for the privilege of towing or removing vehicles
 1013 or vessels from a particular location.

1014 5. Except for property appurtenant to and obviously a part
 1015 of a single-family residence, and except for instances when

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596-02460-26

20261220c1

1016 notice is personally given to the owner or other legally
 1017 authorized person in control of the vehicle or vessel that the
 1018 area in which that vehicle or vessel is parked is reserved or
 1019 otherwise unavailable for unauthorized vehicles or vessels and
 1020 that the vehicle or vessel is subject to being removed at the
 1021 owner's or operator's expense, any property owner or lessee, or
 1022 person authorized by the property owner or lessee, before towing
 1023 or removing any vehicle or vessel from private property without
 1024 the consent of the owner or other legally authorized person in
 1025 control of that vehicle or vessel, must post a notice meeting
 1026 the following requirements:

1027 a. The notice must be prominently placed at each driveway
 1028 access or curb cut allowing vehicular access to the property
 1029 within 10 feet from the road, as defined in s. 334.03 s.
 1030 334.03(22). If there are no curbs or access barriers, the signs
 1031 must be posted not fewer than one sign for each 25 feet of lot
 1032 frontage.

1033 b. The notice must clearly indicate, in not fewer than 2-
 1034 inch high, light-reflective letters on a contrasting background,
 1035 that unauthorized vehicles will be towed away at the owner's
 1036 expense. The words "tow-away zone" must be included on the sign
 1037 in not fewer than 4-inch high letters.

1038 c. The notice must also provide the name and current
 1039 telephone number of the person or firm towing or removing the
 1040 vehicles or vessels.

1041 d. The sign structure containing the required notices must
 1042 be permanently installed with the words "tow-away zone" not
 1043 fewer than 3 feet and not more than 6 feet above ground level
 1044 and must be continuously maintained on the property for not

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596-02460-26 20261220c1

1045 fewer than 24 hours before the towing or removal of any vehicles
 1046 or vessels.

1047 e. The local government may require permitting and
 1048 inspection of these signs before any towing or removal of
 1049 vehicles or vessels being authorized.

1050 f. A business with 20 or fewer parking spaces satisfies the
 1051 notice requirements of this subparagraph by prominently
 1052 displaying a sign stating "Reserved Parking for Customers Only
 1053 Unauthorized Vehicles or Vessels Will be Towed Away At the
 1054 Owner's Expense" in not fewer than 4-inch high, light-reflective
 1055 letters on a contrasting background.

1056 g. A property owner towing or removing vessels from real
 1057 property must post notice, consistent with the requirements in
 1058 sub-subparagraphs a.-f., which apply to vehicles, that
 1059 unauthorized vehicles or vessels will be towed away at the
 1060 owner's expense.

1061

1062 A business owner or lessee may authorize the removal of a
 1063 vehicle or vessel by a towing company when the vehicle or vessel
 1064 is parked in such a manner that restricts the normal operation
 1065 of business; and if a vehicle or vessel parked on a public
 1066 right-of-way obstructs access to a private driveway the owner,
 1067 lessee, or agent may have the vehicle or vessel removed by a
 1068 towing company upon signing an order that the vehicle or vessel
 1069 be removed without a posted tow-away zone sign.

1070 6. Any person or firm that tows or removes vehicles or
 1071 vessels and proposes to require an owner, operator, or person in
 1072 control or custody of a vehicle or vessel to pay the costs of
 1073 towing and storage before redemption of the vehicle or vessel

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596-02460-26 20261220c1

1074 must file and keep on record with the local law enforcement
 1075 agency a complete copy of the current rates to be charged for
 1076 such services and post at the storage site an identical rate
 1077 schedule and any written contracts with property owners,
 1078 lessees, or persons in control of property which authorize such
 1079 person or firm to remove vehicles or vessels as provided in this
 1080 section.

1081 7. Any person or firm towing or removing any vehicles or
 1082 vessels from private property without the consent of the owner
 1083 or other legally authorized person in control or custody of the
 1084 vehicles or vessels shall, on any trucks, wreckers as defined in
 1085 s. 713.78(1), or other vehicles used in the towing or removal,
 1086 have the name, address, and telephone number of the company
 1087 performing such service clearly printed in contrasting colors on
 1088 the driver and passenger sides of the vehicle. The name shall be
 1089 in at least 3-inch permanently affixed letters, and the address
 1090 and telephone number shall be in at least 1-inch permanently
 1091 affixed letters.

1092 8. Vehicle entry for the purpose of removing the vehicle or
 1093 vessel shall be allowed with reasonable care on the part of the
 1094 person or firm towing the vehicle or vessel. Such person or firm
 1095 shall be liable for any damage occasioned to the vehicle or
 1096 vessel if such entry is not in accordance with the standard of
 1097 reasonable care.

1098 9. When a vehicle or vessel has been towed or removed
 1099 pursuant to this section, it must be released to its owner or
 1100 person in control or custody within 1 hour after requested. Any
 1101 vehicle or vessel owner or person in control or custody has the
 1102 right to inspect the vehicle or vessel before accepting its

Page 38 of 42

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596-02460-26 20261220c1

1103 return, and no release or waiver of any kind which would release
 1104 the person or firm towing the vehicle or vessel from liability
 1105 for damages noted by the owner or person in control or custody
 1106 at the time of the redemption may be required from any vehicle
 1107 or vessel owner or person in control or custody as a condition
 1108 of release of the vehicle or vessel to its owner or person in
 1109 control or custody. A detailed receipt showing the legal name of
 1110 the company or person towing or removing the vehicle or vessel
 1111 must be given to the person paying towing or storage charges at
 1112 the time of payment, whether requested or not.

1113 Section 35. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
 1114 1006.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1115 1006.23 Hazardous walking conditions.—

1116 (2) HAZARDOUS WALKING CONDITIONS.—

1117 (a) *Walkways parallel to the road.*—

1118 1. It shall be considered a hazardous walking condition
 1119 with respect to any road along which students must walk in order
 1120 to walk to and from school if there is not an area at least 4
 1121 feet wide adjacent to the road, not including drainage ditches,
 1122 sluiceways, swales, or channels, having a surface upon which
 1123 students may walk without being required to walk on the road
 1124 surface or if the walkway is along a limited access facility as
 1125 defined in s. 334.03 s. 334.03(12). In addition, whenever the
 1126 road along which students must walk is uncurbed and has a posted
 1127 speed limit of 50 miles per hour or greater, the area as
 1128 described above for students to walk upon shall be set off the
 1129 road by no less than 3 feet from the edge of the road.

1130 2. Subparagraph 1. does not apply when the road along which
 1131 students must walk:

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1132 a. Is a road on which the volume of traffic is less than
 1133 180 vehicles per hour, per direction, during the time students
 1134 walk to and from school; or

1135 b. Is located in a residential area and has a posted speed
 1136 limit of 30 miles per hour or less.

1137 Section 36. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 1138 made by this act to section 316.003, Florida Statutes, in a
 1139 reference thereto, subsection (21) of section 320.02, Florida
 1140 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1141 320.02 Registration required; application for registration;
 1142 forms.—

1143 (21) A personal delivery device and a mobile carrier as
 1144 defined in s. 316.003 are not required to satisfy the
 1145 registration and insurance requirements of this section.

1146 Section 37. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
 1147 made by this act to section 316.003, Florida Statutes, in a
 1148 reference thereto, subsection (1) of section 324.021, Florida
 1149 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1150 324.021 Definitions; minimum insurance required.—The
 1151 following words and phrases when used in this chapter shall, for
 1152 the purpose of this chapter, have the meanings respectively
 1153 ascribed to them in this section, except in those instances
 1154 where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

1155 (1) MOTOR VEHICLE.—Every self-propelled vehicle that is
 1156 designed and required to be licensed for use upon a highway,
 1157 including trailers and semitrailers designed for use with such
 1158 vehicles, except traction engines, road rollers, farm tractors,
 1159 power shovels, and well drillers, and every vehicle that is
 1160 propelled by electric power obtained from overhead wires but not

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1161 operated upon rails, but not including any personal delivery
1162 device or mobile carrier as defined in s. 316.003, bicycle,
1163 electric bicycle, or moped. However, the term "motor vehicle"
1164 does not include a motor vehicle as defined in s. 627.732(3)
1165 when the owner of such vehicle has complied with the
1166 requirements of ss. 627.730-627.7405, inclusive, unless the
1167 provisions of s. 324.051 apply; and, in such case, the
1168 applicable proof of insurance provisions of s. 320.02 apply.

1169 Section 38. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment
1170 made by this act to section 316.003, Florida Statutes, in a
1171 reference thereto, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
1172 324.022, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

1173 324.022 Financial responsibility for property damage.—
1174 (2) As used in this section, the term:
1175 (a) "Motor vehicle" means any self-propelled vehicle that
1176 has four or more wheels and that is of a type designed and
1177 required to be licensed for use on the highways of this state,
1178 and any trailer or semitrailer designed for use with such
1179 vehicle. The term does not include:
1180 1. A mobile home.
1181 2. A motor vehicle that is used in mass transit and
1182 designed to transport more than five passengers, exclusive of
1183 the operator of the motor vehicle, and that is owned by a
1184 municipality, transit authority, or political subdivision of the
1185 state.
1186 3. A school bus as defined in s. 1006.25.
1187 4. A vehicle providing for-hire transportation that is
1188 subject to the provisions of s. 324.031. A taxicab shall
1189 maintain security as required under s. 324.032(1).

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1190 5. A personal delivery device as defined in s. 316.003.
1191 Section 39. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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The Florida Senate

Committee Agenda Request

To: Senator Nick DiCeglie, Chair
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic
Development

Subject: Committee Agenda Request

Date: February 3, 2026

I respectfully request that **Senate Bill #1220**, relating to Transportation, be placed on the:

- committee agenda at your earliest possible convenience.
- next committee agenda.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph E. Massullo, Jr." or a similar variation.

Senator Ralph E. Massullo, Jr.
Florida Senate, District 11

2/12/2026

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

SB 1220

Meeting Date

Senate Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Committee

Name **Jason Unger**

Address **301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 600**

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Serve Robotics

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Meeting Date

Approps Committee on Transportation
Committee Tourism & Economic Dev

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Name Mark Jeffries

Phone 407-836-5909

Address 201 S. Rosalind Ave.

Email mark.jeffries@ocfl.net

Street

Orlando, FL 32801

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Orange County

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](#) [flsenate.gov](#)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/26

Meeting Date

TEO Appropriations

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

1220

Bill Number or Topic

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Committee

Jeffrey Starkey

Phone

850 224 1660

Name

106 E College Ave #110

Email

JeffreyStarkey@gmail.com

Address

Street

TH

State

FL

Zip

32301

City

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Zipline

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. 2020-2022JointRules.pdf flsenate.gov

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

12 Feb 2026

Meeting Date
TED Approps

Committee
Steven Schale

Name

Address
204 S Monroe Street

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32317

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

Reset Form

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

WAYMO

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

1220

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

850-222-8900

Phone

steve@tapfla.com

Email

The Florida Senate

APPEARANCE RECORD

Feb 12, 2020

Meeting Date

Approps TIED

Committee

Name Abby Vail

Address 201 E. Park Ave, 5th Floor
Street Tallahassee, FL 32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Door Dash

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1, 2020-2022JointRules.pdf flsenate.gov

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S-001 (08/10/2021)

2/12/24

Meeting Date

TED Appropriations

Committee

Name David Allen

Address 333 SE 2nd Ave Suite 3200

Street

Miami

City

FL

State

33131

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking:

In Support

Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Uber Technologies

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](http://flsenate.gov)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
APPEARANCE RECORD

Deliver both copies of this form to Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

1220

Bill Number or Topic

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

501-401-2187

Email david.allen@gray-robinson.com

2/12/2024

The Florida Senate

1220

Meeting Date

Appropriations Committee on Transportation

Bill Number or Topic

Committee

Name **Lorena Holley**

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

850-443-1173

Address **227 South Adams Street**

Email **Lorena@FRF.org**

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist, representing:

Florida Retail Federation

I am not a lobbyist, but received something of value for my appearance (travel, meals, lodging, etc.), sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf](https://www.flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf) (flsenate.gov)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 7

Sponsor: Massullo

Subject: Transportation

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: CS/SB 1220

Final Action: Favorable with Committee Substitute

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
RE=Replaced by Engrossed Amendment
RS=Replaced by Substitute Amendment

TP=Temporarily Postponed
VA=Vote After Roll Call
VC=Vote Change After Roll Call

WD=Withdrawn
OO=Out of Order
AV=Abstain from Voting

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation,
Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 7

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Massullo

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Subject: Transportation

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: CS/SB 1220

Final Action: Favorable with Committee Substitute

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
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TP=Temporarily Postponed
VA=Vote After Roll Call
VC=Vote Change After Roll Call

WD=Withdrawn
OO=Out of Order
AV=Abstain from Voting

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

BILL: SB 1352

INTRODUCER: Senator Trumbull

SUBJECT: Motor Vehicles

DATE: February 11, 2026 **REVISED:** _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. <u>Shutes</u>	<u>Vickers</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2. <u>Wells</u>	<u>Nortelus</u>	<u>ATD</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3. _____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____

I. Summary:

SB 1352 amends various provisions relating to motor vehicles and related licensing transactions. Specifically, the bill:

- Requires the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to establish and maintain a secure online portal for verifying, recording, and processing the seizure or confiscation of license plates.
- Provides that a disabled veteran may retain the unique alpha-numeric designation assigned to the “DV” license plate upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the license plate.
- Authorizes tax collectors to issue disabled veteran license plates immediately on demand to qualified applicants.
- Allows eligible applicants to choose either a wheelchair symbol license plate or a “DV” designation license plate in lieu of a disabled parking permit.
- Prohibits the manufacture, sale, or use of license plate covers, films, or overlays that obscure or alter the license plate in a specified manner.
- Provides that driver license and identification card renewals and replacements ordered through the DHSMV’s online license and registration portal must be routed to the customer’s residence county for fulfillment by the appropriate tax collector.
- Requires the DHSMV to remit payment to the tax collector for online transactions related to driver license and identification card renewals and replacements.

The bill will have a negative indeterminate fiscal impact on private and governmental sectors. See Section V., Fiscal Impact Statement.

The bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

License Plate Issuance and Seizure

Current law provides that upon the receipt of an initial application for registration and payment of the appropriate license tax and other fees required by law, the DHSMV assigns a motor vehicle the registration license number consisting of letters and numerals or numerals and issues to the owner or lessee, a certificate of registration and one registration license plate, unless two plates are required for display, for each vehicle registered.¹

Registration license plates bearing a graphic symbol and the alphanumeric system of identification is issued for a 10-year period. At the end of the 10-year period, upon renewal, the plate is replaced. The fee for such replacement is \$28, \$2.80 of which shall be paid each year before the plate is replaced, to be credited toward the next \$28 replacement fee. The fees are deposited into the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund.²

With each license plate issued, a validation sticker is also issued showing the owner's birth month, license plate number, and the year of expiration or the appropriate renewal period if the owner is not a natural person. The validation sticker is placed on the upper right corner of the license plate. The standard registration period is 12 months, the extended registration period is 24 months, and all expirations occur based on the applicant's appropriate registration period. Certain rental vehicles and taxed rental trucks may elect a permanent registration period, provided payment of the appropriate license taxes and fees occur annually.³

Law enforcement agencies may seize license plates for failure to return or surrender a license plate or registration while the driver license or registration is suspended for support delinquency. In addition, if a law enforcement officer determines that a person operating a motor vehicle is also the owner or registrant, or the co-owner or co-registrant, of the motor vehicle and is operating the motor vehicle with a driver license or vehicle registration that has been under suspension pursuant to a violation of ch. 322, F.S., for a period of at least 30 days, the law enforcement officer shall immediately seize the license plate of the motor vehicle.^{4,5}

License Plates Issued to Certain Disabled Veterans

Currently, the DHSMV issues one free motor vehicle license number plate to certain disabled veterans. Qualifying veterans must have a 100% service-connected disability, receive disability retirement pay, and have maintained Florida residency for a period of five years after receiving an honorable discharge.⁶ Upon receipt of the application and proof of the applicant's continued eligibility, the DHSMV must issue a new permanent disabled veteran motor vehicle license plate which are the colors red, white, and blue, similar to the colors of the United States flag. The

¹ Section 320.06(1), F.S.

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ Section 324.201(4), F.S.

⁵ Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV), *2026 Legislative Bill Analysis: SB 1352* (January 29, 2026) at p. 2 (on file with the Senate Committee on Transportation).

⁶ Section 320.084(1), F.S.

permanent license plate must be removed upon sale of the vehicle but may be transferred to another vehicle owned by such veteran in the manner prescribed by law. Upon request of any such veteran, the DHSMV is authorized to issue a designation plate containing only the letters "DV," to be displayed on the front of the vehicle.⁷

Currently, a disabled veteran who has been issued a permanent DV license plate cannot retain the unique alpha-numeric designation assigned to the license plate upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the license plate to another vehicle.

Customers can renew online via the MyDMV portal, by mail, or in-person at a tax collector's office or license plate agency. License plates being renewed online or by mail are fulfilled from pre-stamped stock inventory maintained at the DHSMV headquarters. If the renewal is in-office, the old license plate is surrendered, and a new license plate is issued over the counter with configurations that have been pre-stamped, unless the customer chooses to order a vanity plate with their own chosen configuration.⁸

License plates which require a specified configuration must be ordered from and manufactured by the DHSMV's license plate manufacturer. Once the vanity plate is produced, it is mailed to the office that renewed the registration for customer pick-up, or to the DHSMV headquarters for mailing to online and mail-in customers.⁹

License Plates for Persons with Disabilities

Any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who resides in this state and qualifies for a disabled parking permit under s. 320.0848(2), F.S., upon application to the department and payment of the license tax for a motor vehicle registered under conditions, is issued a license plate, in lieu of the serial number, and is stamped with the international wheelchair user symbol after the serial number of the license plate. The license plate entitles the person to all privileges afforded by a parking permit. When more than one registrant is listed on the registration issued under this section, the eligible applicant is noted on the registration certificate.¹⁰

All applications for such license plates must be made directly to the DHSMV.¹¹

Permanently Disabled Parking Permits

The department or its authorized agents must, upon application and receipt of the required fee, issue a disabled parking permit for a period of up to four years, which period ends on the applicant's birthday, to any person who has long-term mobility impairment. No person will be required to pay a fee for a parking permit for disabled persons more than once in a 12-month period from the date of the prior fee payment.¹²

⁷ Section 320.084(3), F.S.

⁸ DHSMV, 2026 *Legislative Bill Analysis: SB 1352* at p. 3.

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ Section 320.0843, F.S.

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Section 320.0848(1)(a), F.S.

In order for an applicant to be certified as having a long-term mobility impairment for a disabled parking permit, they must meet one of the following criteria:

- Is certified legally blind.
- Has an inability to walk without the use of or assistance from a brace, cane, crutch, prosthetic device, or other assistive device, or without the assistance of another person. If the assistive device significantly restores the person's ability to walk to the extent that the person can walk without severe limitation, the person is not eligible for the exemption parking permit.
- The need to permanently use a wheelchair.
- Restriction by lung disease to the extent that the person's forced (respiratory) expiratory volume for one second, when measured by spirometry, is less than one liter, or the person's arterial oxygen is less than 60 mm/hg on room air at rest.
- Use of portable oxygen.
- Restriction by cardiac condition to the extent that the person's functional limitations are classified in severity as Class III or Class IV according to standards set by the American Heart Association.
- Severe limitation in the person's ability to walk due to an arthritic, neurological, or orthopedic condition.¹³

Section 320.0848, F.S., provides a person who qualifies for a disabled parking permit may be issued an international wheelchair symbol user license plate pursuant to s. 320.0843, F.S., in lieu of the disabled parking permit; or, if the person qualifies for a disabled veteran license plate pursuant to s. 320.084, F.S., such license plate may be issued in lieu of the disabled parking permit.

Counterfeiting and Obscuring License Plates

Section 320.26, F.S., provides that no person shall counterfeit registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers, or have in his or her possession any such plates or stickers; nor shall any person manufacture, sell, or dispose of registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers in the state without first having obtained the permission and authority of the DHSMV in writing.

Section 320.061, F.S., provides a person may not alter the original appearance of a vehicle registration certificate, license plate, temporary license plate, mobile home sticker, or validation sticker issued for and assigned to a motor vehicle or mobile home, whether by mutilation, alteration, defacement, change of color or in any other manner. A person may not apply or attach a substance, reflective matter, illuminated device, spray, coating, covering, or other material onto or around any license plate which interferes with the legibility, angular visibility, or detectability of any feature or detail on the license plate or interferes with the ability to record any feature or detail on the license plate.

Driver License and Identification Card Fees

Currently, an original or renewal Class E driver license is \$48, except that a delinquent fee of \$15 is added for a renewal or extension made within 12 months after the license expiration date.

¹³ Section 320.0848(1)(b), F.S.

A replacement Class E driver license is \$25.¹⁴ An original, renewal, or replacement identification card is \$25.¹⁵ Various additional fees and charges may apply. For example, an additional \$6.25 fee applies to driver license and identification card transactions processed via a county tax collectors.¹⁶

The DHSMV's self-service online portal, MyDMV portal, offers customers the ability to perform motor vehicle and driver license transactions.¹⁷ Currently, motor vehicle registration transactions performed via the MyDMV portal are downloaded to the tax collector office in which the customer resides for processing. Processing of these transactions takes place in the tax collector's office and the transaction documents are mailed to the customer.¹⁸

Driver license transactions performed online via the MyDMV portal are currently fulfilled through the DHSMV. Transaction-related documents are printed and mailed from DHSMV headquarters in Tallahassee and the customer does not incur any additional fees for processing.¹⁹ According to the DHSMV, in 2025 it processed 14,155,419 driver license and identification card orders through its Central Issuance Processing.²⁰

Chapter No. 2025-125, L.O.F., amended s. 322.135, F.S., to provide that, effective July 1, 2026, tax collector services shall be limited to the issuance of driver licenses and identification cards as authorized by ch. 322, F.S., transactions for which may be processed by the tax collector using the department's online license and registration portal.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 320.06, F.S., to provide that the DHSMV must establish and maintain a secure online license and registration portal accessible to the department, tax collectors, and authorized law enforcement agencies for the purpose of verifying, recording, and processing the seizure or confiscation of license plates. The portal must provide immediate status updates when a plate has been seized, destroyed, or returned and must be checked before reissuance of a registration plate. The DHSMV may adopt rules to implement this provision.

Section 2 amends s. 320.084, F.S., to provide that a disabled veteran who has been issued a permanent disabled motor vehicle license plate may retain the unique alpha-numeric designation assigned to the plate upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the plate to another vehicle owned by the veteran.

Section 3 amends s. 320.0843, F.S., to allow the letters "DV" indicating disabled veteran to be included after the serial number of the license plate for customers who qualify for a disabled parking permit. Additionally, the bill allows tax collectors, as authorized agents of the DHSMV,

¹⁴ Section 322.21(1)(c), F.S.

¹⁵ Section 322.21(1)(f), F.S.

¹⁶ Section 322.135(1)(c), F.S.

¹⁷ DHSMV, *2026 Legislative Bill Analysis: SB 1352* at p. 5.

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ *Id.*

²⁰ *Id.*, at p. 8.

to process applications for “DV” license plates and authorizes on-demand and immediate issuance of such license plates per the DHSMV rules.

Section 4 amends s. 320.26, F.S., to provide a person may not manufacture, sell, offer for sale, or affix to any registration license plate any cover, film, or overlay, whether transparent, translucent, tinted, or opaque, which obscures or alters the legibility, color, or design of the registration license plate. A person who violates this provision commits a third degree felony.

Section 5 amends s. 322.21, F.S., to require any renewal or replacement of a driver’s license or identification card ordered through the DHSMV’s online license and registration portal to be fulfilled by the tax collector of the county in which the applicant resides. The DHSMV is to ensure that all online orders are transmitted to the appropriate tax collector for fulfillment.

The tax collector may mail the driver license or identification card to the applicant or, at the option of the applicant, may allow the applicant to pick up the driver license or identification card at the tax collector’s office. Fulfillment by the tax collector constitutes services provided by them, and the DHSMV is required to remit the \$6.25 service fee to the appropriate tax collector for each transaction fulfilled.

Section 6 amends s. 320.0848, F.S., to provide that applicants who qualify for the disabled parking permit may choose either a wheelchair symbol or a “DV” designation license plate in lieu of a disabled parking permit.

Section 7 provides that the bill takes effect July 1, 2026.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

Section 19, Art. VII of the State Constitution limits the authority of legislature to enact legislation that imposes or raises a state tax or fee by requiring such legislation to be approved by a 2/3 vote of each chamber of the legislature. Such state tax or fee imposed, authorized, or raised must be contained in a separate bill that contains no other subject.

This bill requires that driver license renewal or replacement transactions submitted via the DHSMV online license and registration portal must be transmitted to the appropriate

tax collector for processing and such processing constitutes services provided by the tax collector. The DHSMV is directed to remit the \$6.25 service fee authorized pursuant to s. 322.135(1)(c), F.S., to the appropriate tax collector for each transaction processed. The \$6.25 service is not currently assessed for transactions processed through the DHSMV online license and registration portal.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

This bill requires that driver license renewal or replacement transactions submitted via the DHSMV online license and registration portal must be transmitted to the appropriate tax collector for processing and directs the DHSMV to remit the existing \$6.25 tax collector service fee to the appropriate tax collector for each transaction processed. The \$6.25 service is not currently assessed for transactions processed through the DHSMV online license and registration portal.

B. Private Sector Impact:

Persons renewing or replacing a driver license or identification card via the MyDMV portal will incur a \$6.25 service charge for transactions fulfilled by tax collectors.

C. Government Sector Impact:

According to the DHSMV, local governments may incur indeterminate costs associated with printing and mailing expenses, and counties may need to employ additional staff to complete the printing and mailing of credentials.²¹

The DHSMV will incur costs associated with modifying the DAVID system to allow law enforcement agencies to submit seized license plates information in real time.²²

The DHSMV will incur indeterminate costs associated with the order and delivery of disabled veteran plate stock to every tax collector location in the state for on-demand disabled veteran plate issuance.²³

The DHSMV estimates it will incur \$251,400 in information technology programming and implementation costs.²⁴

²¹ DHSMV, *supra* note 5, at p. 8.

²² *Id.*

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ *Id.*

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

The DHSMV recommended that the effective date of the bill be extended to March 1, 2027, in order to provide additional time to implement the provisions of the bill.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 320.06, 320.084, 320.0843, 320.26, 322.21, and 320.0848.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

By Senator Trumbull

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

2-01120A-26

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30 conforming a provision to changes made by the act;
31 providing an effective date.

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

35 Section 1. Subsection (7) is added to section 320.06,
36 Florida Statutes, to read:

320.06 Registration certificates, license plates, and validation stickers generally.—

39 (7) The department shall establish and maintain a secure
40 online license and registration portal accessible to the
41 department, tax collectors, and authorized law enforcement
42 agencies for the purpose of verifying, recording, and processing
43 the seizure or confiscation of license plates under this
44 chapter. The portal must provide immediate status updates when a
45 plate has been seized, destroyed, or returned and must be
46 checked before reissuance of a registration or plate. The
47 department may adopt rules to implement this subsection.

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 320.084, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.084 Free motor vehicle license plate to certain disabled veterans.—

52 (3) The department shall, as it deems necessary, require
53 each person to whom a motor vehicle license plate has been
54 issued pursuant to subsection (1) to apply to the department for
55 reissuance of his or her registration license plate. Upon
56 receipt of the application and proof of the applicant's
57 continued eligibility, the department shall issue a new
58 permanent disabled veteran motor vehicle license plate which

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shall be of the colors red, white, and blue similar to the colors of the United States flag. A disabled veteran who has been issued a permanent disabled veteran motor vehicle license plate may retain the unique alphanumeric designation assigned to the plate upon reissuance, renewal, or transfer of the plate to another vehicle owned by the veteran. The operation of a motor vehicle displaying a disabled veteran license plate from a previous issue period or a noncurrent validation sticker after the date specified by the department shall subject the owner if he or she is present, otherwise the operator, to the penalty provided in s. 318.18(2). Such permanent license plate shall be removed upon sale of the vehicle, but may be transferred to another vehicle owned by such veteran in the manner prescribed by law. Upon request of any such veteran, the department is authorized to issue a designation plate containing only the letters "DV," to be displayed on the front of the vehicle.

Section 3. Section 320.0843, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.0843 License plates for persons with disabilities eligible for permanent disabled parking permits.—

(1) Any owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who resides in this state and qualifies for a disabled parking permit under s. 320.0848(2), upon application to the department, or the tax collector as an authorized agent of the department, and payment of the license tax for a motor vehicle registered under s. 320.08(2), (3)(a), (b), (c), or (e), (4)(a) or (b), (6)(a), or (9)(c) or (d), shall be issued a license plate as provided by s. 320.06 which, in lieu of or in addition to the serial number prescribed by s. 320.06, shall, at the option of the applicant,

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be stamped with the international wheelchair user symbol or the letters "DV" indicating a disabled veteran after the serial number of the license plate. The license plate entitles the person to all privileges afforded by a parking permit issued under s. 320.0848. When more than one registrant is listed on the registration issued under this section, the eligible applicant shall be noted on the registration certificate.

(2) All applications for such license plates may ~~must~~ be made to the department or the tax collector, and such license plates may ~~be issued immediately on demand by the tax collector~~, subject to rules of the department.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 320.26, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

320.26 Counterfeiting license plates, validation stickers, mobile home stickers, cab cards, trip permits, or special temporary operational permits prohibited; obscuring or altering license plates prohibited; penalty.—

(1)(a) A ~~no~~ person may ~~not~~:

1. ~~shall~~ Counterfeit registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers, or have in his or her possession any such plates or stickers.

2. ~~nor shall any person~~ Manufacture, sell, or dispose of registration license plates, validation stickers, or mobile home stickers in this the state without first having obtained the permission and authority of the department in writing.

3. ~~Manufacture, sell, offer for sale, or affix to any registration license plate any cover, film, or overlay, whether transparent, translucent, tinted, or opaque, which obscures or alters the legibility, color, or design of the registration~~

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117 license plate.

118 Section 5. Subsection (10) is added to section 322.21,
119 Florida Statutes, to read:

120 322.21 License fees; procedure for handling and collecting
121 fees.-

122 (10) (a) Any renewal or replacement driver license or
123 identification card ordered through the department's online
124 license and registration portal shall be fulfilled by the tax
125 collector of the county in which the applicant resides. The
126 department shall ensure that all online orders are transmitted
127 to the appropriate tax collector for fulfillment. The tax
128 collector may mail the driver license or identification card to
129 the applicant or, at the option of the applicant, may allow the
130 applicant to pick up the driver license or identification card
131 at the tax collector's office.

132 (b) For purposes of s. 322.135(1)(c), fulfillment under
133 paragraph (a) constitutes services provided by the tax
134 collector. The department shall remit the service fee authorized
135 by s. 322.135(1)(c) to the appropriate tax collector for each
136 transaction fulfilled under paragraph (a).

137 Section 6. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section
138 320.0848, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

139 320.0848 Persons who have disabilities; issuance of
140 disabled parking permits; temporary permits; permits for certain
141 providers of transportation services to persons who have
142 disabilities.-

143 (2) DISABLED PARKING PERMIT; PERSONS WITH LONG-TERM
144 MOBILITY PROBLEMS.-

145 (e) A person who qualifies for a disabled parking permit

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146 under this section may be issued an international wheelchair
147 user symbol or "DV" license plate under s. 320.0843 in lieu of
148 the disabled parking permit; or, if the person qualifies for a
149 disabled veteran license plate under s. 320.084, such a license
150 plate may be issued to him or her in lieu of a disabled parking
151 permit.

152 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services, *Chair*
Appropriations
Community Affairs
Health Policy
Judiciary
Rules

SENATOR JAY TRUMBULL
2nd District

February 4, 2026

Re: SB 1352

Dear Chair DiCeglie,

I respectfully request Senate Bill 1352, Motor Vehicles, be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development.

I appreciate your time and consideration of this request. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at (850) 487-5002.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay Trumbull".

Senator Jay Trumbull
District 2

REPLY TO:

- 840 West 11th Street, Panama City, Florida 32401 (850) 747-5454
- 415 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5002

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore

2/12/26

The Florida Senate

1352

Meeting Date

APPEARANCE RECORD

Bill Number or Topic

TED Approps

Deliver both copies of this form to
Senate professional staff conducting the meeting

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Committee

Name **Drew Meiner**

Phone **3095310384**

Address **124 W. Jefferson St.**

Email **drew@cccfla.com**

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32301

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

OR

Waive Speaking: In Support Against

PLEASE CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

I am appearing without
compensation or sponsorship.

I am a registered lobbyist,
representing:

Florida Tax Collector's Association

I am not a lobbyist, but received
something of value for my appearance
(travel, meals, lodging, etc.),
sponsored by:

While it is a tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this hearing. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard. If you have questions about registering to lobby please see Fla. Stat. §11.045 and Joint Rule 1. [2020-2022JointRules.pdf \(flsenate.gov\)](https://flsenate.gov/2020-2022JointRules.pdf)

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (08/10/2021)

The Florida Senate
COMMITTEE VOTE RECORD

Committee: Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

Tab #: 8

Meeting Date: Thursday, February 12, 2026

Sponsor: Trumbull
Subject: Motor Vehicles

Time: 2:30—4:00 p.m.

Place: 110 Senate Building

Bill #: SB 1352

Final Action: Favorable

CODES: FAV=Favorable
UNF=Unfavorable
-R=Reconsidered

RCS=Replaced by Committee Substitute
RE=Replaced by Engrossed Amendment
RS=Replaced by Substitute Amendment

TP=Temporarily Postponed
VA=Vote After Roll Call
VC=Vote Change After Roll Call

WD=Withdrawn
OO=Out of Order
AV=Abstain from Voting

The Florida Senate
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The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development

BILL: CS/SB 1670

INTRODUCER: Transportation Committee and Senator Osgood

SUBJECT: Specialty License Plates/Outsider License Plate

DATE: February 11, 2026 **REVISED:** _____

ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1. <u>Shutes</u>	<u>Vickers</u>	<u>TR</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2. <u>Wells</u>	<u>Nortelus</u>	<u>ATD</u>	<u>Pre-meeting</u>
3. _____	_____	<u>FP</u>	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 1670 authorizes the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) to create an Outsider specialty license plate. The annual use fee for the plate is \$25.

Proceeds of the sale of the Outsider specialty license plate will be distributed to the Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc., to create and restore iconic public destinations across the state of Florida. Up to 10 percent of the funds from the sale of the plate can be used for administrative and marketing costs associated with the plate.

The DHSMV has not submitted a bill analysis for SB 1670, but according to submitted analyses for the 2025-2026 Legislative Session, the fiscal impact associated with the implementation of new specialty license plates is \$8,160. See **Section V. Fiscal Impact Statement**.

The bill takes effect October 1, 2026.

II. Present Situation:

Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc.

Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc., is a Florida not-for-profit corporation registered with the Florida Department of State.¹

¹ Florida Department of State: Division of Corporations, *Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc.* Sunbiz.org, Document number

The Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc., is dedicated to enhancing public spaces throughout Florida and its initiatives focus on welcoming environments that foster community connections and showcase the natural beauty of the outdoors.²

The foundations website provides that “By restoring and reimaging gathering areas, we aim to make Florida’s outdoor spaces more accessible, vibrant, and interconnected. Through our efforts, we strengthen communities and encourage engagement with nature. Together we are making a lasting impact on our environment and the lives of all Floridians.”³

Specialty License Plates

According to the DHSMV, as of October 2025, there are 132 specialty license plates authorized by the Legislature. Of these plates, 118 are available for immediate purchase and 14 are in the presale process.⁴ Specialty license plates are available to an owner or lessee of a motor vehicle who is willing to pay an annual use fee, ranging from \$15 to \$25, paid in addition to required license taxes and service fees.⁵ The annual use fees are distributed to organizations in support of a particular cause or charity signified on the plate’s design and designated in statute.⁶

In order to establish a specialty license plate (after the plate is approved by law) s. 320.08053, F.S., requires the following actions within certain timelines:

- Within 60 days, the organization must submit an art design for the plate, in a medium prescribed by the DHSMV;
- Within 120 days, the DHSMV must establish a method to issue presale vouchers for the specialty license plate; and
- Within 24 months after the presale vouchers are established, the organization must obtain a minimum of 3,000 voucher sales before manufacturing of the plate may begin.⁷

If the minimum sales requirement has not been met by the end of the 24-month presale period, then the DHSMV will discontinue the plate and issuance of presale vouchers.⁸ Upon discontinuation, a purchaser of a presale voucher may use the annual use fee as a credit towards any other specialty license plate or apply for a refund with the DHSMV.⁹

New specialty license plates that have been approved by law but are awaiting issuance will be issued in the order they appear in s. 320.08058, F.S., provided that presale requirements have

N25000007736 (January 21, 2026).

² Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc., [About Us | Hoober Brothers Foundation](#), (last visited February 5, 2026).

³ *Id.*

⁴ Email from Jonas Marquez, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, RE: Specialty License Plates (November 25, 2025).

⁵ Section 320.08056(3)(d), F.S., provides that except if specifically provided in s. 320.08056(4), the annual use fee for a specialty license plate is \$25.

⁶ Section 320.08058, F.S.

⁷ Chapter 2022-189, Laws of Fla., extended the presale requirement by an additional 24 months for an approved specialty license plate organization that, as of June 15, 2022, is in the presale period but had not recorded at least 3,000 voucher sales.

⁸ Section 320.08058(3), F.S., provides that any collegiate plate established after October 1, 2002, must comply with the requirements of s. 320.08053, F.S., other than the presale voucher requirements in s. 320.08053(2)(b), F.S., and be specifically authorized by the Legislature.

⁹ Section 320.08053(2)(b), F.S.

been met. If the next listed specialty license plate has not met the presale requirement, the DHSMV will proceed in the order provided in s. 320.08058, F.S., to identify the next qualified specialty license plate that has met the presale requirement.¹⁰

If the Legislature has approved 135 or more specialty license plates, the DHSMV may not make any new specialty license plates available for design or issuance until a sufficient number of plates are discontinued so that the number of plates being issued does not exceed 135.¹¹

Use of Specialty License Plate Fees

The annual use fees collected by an organization and any interest earned from the fees may be expended only for use in this state unless the annual use fee is derived from the sale of specified United States Armed Forces and veterans-related specialty plates.¹² Additionally, organizations must adhere to certain accountability requirements, including an annual audit or attestation document affirming that funds received have been spent in accordance with applicable statutes.¹³

The annual use fees collected by an organization and the interest earned from those fees may not be used for commercial or for-profit activities, or general or administrative expenses, unless authorized by s. 320.08058, F.S.¹⁴ Additionally, the annual use fees and interest earned from those fees may not be used for the purpose of marketing to, or lobbying, entertaining, or rewarding, any employee of a governmental agency that is responsible for the sale and distribution of specialty license plates, or any elected member or employee of the Legislature.¹⁵

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The bill amends s. 320.08058, F.S., to authorize the DHSMV to create a new Outsider specialty license plate. The annual use fee for the plate is \$25. The plate must bear the colors and design approved by the DHSMV, with the word “Florida” at the top of the plate and the words “Outsider” at the bottom of the plate.

Proceeds from the sale of the Outsider specialty license plate will be distributed to the Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc. The organization may use up to 10 percent of the proceeds for marketing and promotion of the plate. Thereafter, the annual use fees from the sale of the plate will be distributed to the Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc., to create and restore iconic public destinations across this state.

The bill takes effect October 1, 2026.

¹⁰ Section 320.08053(3)(a), F.S.

¹¹ Section 320.08053(3)(b), F.S.

¹² Section 320.08056(10)(a), F.S.

¹³ Section 320.08062, F.S.; Such fees may be used to pay for the cost of this required audit or report. See s. 320.08056(10)(a), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 320.08056(10)(a), F.S.

¹⁵ Section 320.08056(11), F.S.

IV. Constitutional Issues:**A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None identified.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:**A. Tax/Fee Issues:**

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

If the specialty license plate is produced, Hoober Brothers Foundation, Inc., a Florida not-for-profit corporation, will receive annual use fees associated with sales of the plate.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The DHSMV has not submitted a bill analysis for SB 1670, but according to submitted analyses for the 2025-2026 Legislative Session, the fiscal impact associated with the implementation of new specialty license plates is \$8,160.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill amends section 320.08058 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:**A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:**

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Transportation on January 27, 2026:

The committee substitute changes the allowable percentage of revenue used for marketing and promotion of the specialty license plate from 25 percent to 10 percent.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

By the Committee on Transportation; and Senator Osgood

596-02237-26

20261670c1

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

11 Section 1. Subsection (136) is added to section 320.08058,
12 Florida Statutes, to read:

320.08058 Specialty license plates.—

14 (136) OUTSIDER LICENSE PLATES.—

15 (a) The department shall develop an Outsider license plate
16 as provided in this section and s. 320.08053. The plate must
17 bear the colors and design approved by the department. The word
18 "Florida" must appear at the top of the plate, and the word
19 "OUTSIDER" must appear at the bottom of the plate.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2026.

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 110

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Senate Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism and Economic Development

Judge:

Started: 2/12/2026 2:30:17 PM

Ends: 2/12/2026 3:56:59 PM

Length: 01:26:43

2:31:45 PM Chair DiCeglie
2:32:27 PM Sen. Massullo (Tab 7 - SB 1220)
2:33:11 PM Chair DiCeglie
2:33:20 PM Sen. Massullo
2:33:38 PM Am. Barcode 343364
2:33:42 PM Chair DiCeglie
2:33:44 PM Sen. Smith
2:34:45 PM Sen. Massullo
2:36:28 PM Sen. Smith
2:37:12 PM Sen. Massullo
2:37:16 PM Sen. Smith
2:37:23 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:37:24 PM Jason Unger, Serve Robotics (Waive in Support)
2:37:41 PM Mark Jefferies, Legislative Administrator, Orange County (Speaking Against)
2:38:02 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:38:05 PM Sen. Massullo
2:38:16 PM Chair DiCeglie
2:38:18 PM Jeffrey Sharkey, Zipline (Waive in Support)
2:38:27 PM Steven Schale, WAYMO (Waive in Support)
2:38:29 PM Abby Vale, Door Dash (Waive in Support)
2:38:32 PM David Allen, Uber Technologies (Waive in Support)
2:38:37 PM Lorena Holley, Florida Retail Federation (Waive in Support)
2:38:41 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:38:52 PM Sen. Smith
2:40:13 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:40:17 PM Sen. Massullo
2:40:31 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:41:20 PM Sen. Massullo
2:41:29 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:41:32 PM Sen. Garcia (Tab 5 - SB 1112)
2:43:15 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:43:26 PM Martha Shunn King (Waive in Support)
2:43:30 PM Calvin Stewart (Waive in Support)
2:43:33 PM Diane North (Waive in Support)
2:43:38 PM Donald Dieujuste (Waive in Support)
2:43:45 PM Kim Smith (Waive in Support)
2:43:49 PM Belinda Davis (Waive in Support)
2:43:52 PM Christopher Stovall (Waive in Support)
2:43:57 PM Andre Brown (Waive in Support)
2:44:02 PM Belinda Riffenburg (Waive in Support)
2:44:05 PM Reese Howell (Waive in Support)
2:44:12 PM James E. Birkin, Jr. (Waive in Support)
2:44:16 PM Richard Jones (Waive in Support)
2:44:19 PM Jennifer Kenny (Waive in Support)
2:44:23 PM Lorraine Rendon (Waive in Support)
2:44:26 PM Fernando Rendon (Waive in Support)
2:44:29 PM Karen Woodall, Florida Center for Fiscal and Economic Policy (Waive in Support)
2:44:38 PM Shawntrel Jackson (Waive in Support)
2:44:43 PM Jessica Maharrey (Waive in Support)
2:44:47 PM Jodi Mochel (Waive in Support)
2:44:54 PM Dr. Rich Templin, Florida AFL CIO (Waive in Support)
2:45:15 PM Jean Tuffit (Speaking in Support)

2:48:14 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:48:21 PM Mona Stafford (Waive in Support)
2:48:24 PM Jason Tache (Waive in Support)
2:48:27 PM Ginger Blomeley (Waive in Support)
2:48:30 PM Felicia Bruce (Waive in Support)
2:48:43 PM Clayton Lee Blackford (Speaking in Support)
2:51:03 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:51:04 PM Alfredo Patino (Waive in Support)
2:51:24 PM Sen. Garcia
2:51:31 PM Sen. Bernard
2:52:11 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:52:17 PM Sen. Bracy Davis
2:52:46 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:53:50 PM Sen. Garcia
2:53:54 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:54:22 PM Sen. Jones (Tab 2 - SB 2)
2:54:40 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:54:42 PM Sen. Jones
2:55:47 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:55:58 PM Sen. Jones
2:56:26 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:56:47 PM Sen. Trumbull (Tab 8 - SB 1352)
2:57:25 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:57:34 PM Drew Meiner, Florida Tax Collector's Association (Waive in Support)
2:57:43 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:58:06 PM Sen. Trumbull
2:58:07 PM Sen. DiCeglie
2:58:45 PM Sen. Polsky (Tab 6 - SB 1192)
2:59:28 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:00:00 PM Sen. Polsky
3:00:05 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:00:19 PM Sen. McClain (Tab 3 - SB 26)
3:00:49 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:00:56 PM Sen. McClain
3:00:58 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:01:24 PM Sen. McClain (Tab 4 - SB 354)
3:01:51 PM Sen. McClain
3:06:35 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:06:43 PM Am. Barcode 686098
3:06:57 PM Sen. McClain
3:08:57 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:09:16 PM Eric Poole, Florida Association of Counties (Speaking in Support)
3:17:12 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:17:17 PM Sen. Truenow
3:17:29 PM Eric Poole
3:17:33 PM Sen. Truenow
3:17:39 PM Eric Poole
3:17:55 PM Sen. Truenow
3:17:59 PM Eric Poole
3:18:06 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:18:20 PM Anna Grace DePaulo, The Florida Chapter of the American Planning Association (Speaking in Support)
3:18:45 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:18:53 PM Bradley Hardee (Speaking in Support)
3:20:36 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:20:44 PM Sen. McClain
3:20:48 PM Sen. DiCeglie
3:20:58 PM Sen. Smith
3:21:58 PM Sen. McClain
3:22:42 PM Sen. Smith
3:23:18 PM Sen. McClain
3:23:36 PM Sen. Smith
3:23:59 PM Sen. McClain

3:24:37 PM	Sen. Smiht
3:25:34 PM	Sen. McClain
3:27:11 PM	Sen. Smith
3:28:16 PM	Sen. McClain
3:29:26 PM	Sen. Smith
3:29:33 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:29:42 PM	Sen. Bracy Davis
3:30:22 PM	Sen. McClain
3:30:53 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:30:55 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:31:18 PM	Sen. McClain
3:32:00 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:32:19 PM	Sen. McClain
3:33:15 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:33:28 PM	Sen. McClain
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3:34:25 PM	Sen. McClain
3:34:39 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:35:15 PM	Sen. McClain
3:35:31 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:35:43 PM	Sen. McClain
3:35:55 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:36:10 PM	Sen. McClain
3:36:14 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:36:16 PM	Sen. Arrington
3:36:54 PM	Sen. McClain
3:37:31 PM	Sen. Arrington
3:37:58 PM	Sen. McClain
3:39:22 PM	Sen. Arrington
3:39:49 PM	Sen. McClain
3:40:29 PM	Sen. Arrington
3:40:49 PM	Sen. McClain
3:41:20 PM	Sen. Arrington
3:41:24 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:41:28 PM	Daniel Martinez, Americans for Prosperity (Waive in Support)
3:41:35 PM	Chadwick Leonard, 1,000 Friends of Florida (Waive in Against)
3:41:44 PM	Elizabeth Alvi, Audubon Florida (Speaking Against)
3:44:35 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:44:43 PM	Bradley Hardee (Speaking Against)
3:47:07 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:47:16 PM	Sen. Grall
3:49:34 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:49:38 PM	Sen. Bernard
3:50:49 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:50:57 PM	Sen. Arrington
3:51:25 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:51:28 PM	Sen. Smith
3:54:09 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:54:13 PM	Sen. McClain
3:55:57 PM	Sen. DiCeglie
3:56:49 PM	Sen. Polsky
3:56:52 PM	Sen. DiCeglie



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Military and Veterans Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security, *Chair*
Appropriations
Appropriations Committee on Criminal and Civil Justice
Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development
Commerce and Tourism
Rules
Transportation

JOINT COMMITTEE:
Joint Legislative Auditing Committee

SENATOR TOM A. WRIGHT
8th District

February 12, 2026

Dear Chair DiCeglie,

I am respectfully requesting an excused absence from the Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development meeting on Thursday, February 12, 2026, scheduled from 2:30 pm to 4:00 pm.

I appreciate your consideration of this request and I look forward to working with you and the Committee in the future. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me directly.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Wright".

Senator Tom Wright
District 8

REPLY TO:

- 4606 Clyde Morris Blvd., Suite 2-J, Port Orange, Florida 32129 (386) 304-7630
- 412 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5008

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

BEN ALBRITTON
President of the Senate

JASON BRODEUR
President Pro Tempore