

THE FLORIDA SENATE
2016 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED

Committee on Transportation

CS/SB 1508 — Airport Zoning Law of 1945

by Community Affairs Committee and Senator Simpson

The bill substantially revises Chapter 333, F.S., containing airport zoning provisions relating to the management of airspace and land use at or near airports. Currently, in general, that chapter:

- Addresses permitting for structures exceeding federal obstruction standards;
- Requires adoption of certain airport zoning regulations;
- Provides a process for seeking variances from the zoning regulations;
- Sets out a process for appeal of decisions based on the zoning regulations;
- Requires boards of adjustment to hear and decide appeals;
- Provides for judicial review of any board of adjustment decisions; and
- Establishes penalties and remedies for violations.

Generally, the bill:

- Updates statutory definitions and terms in accordance with federal regulations;
- Streamlines the current local airport protection zoning process to a simpler permitting model;
- Provides local governments the flexibility to structure and incorporate the airport protection zoning review process into existing local zoning review processes and repeals duplicative requirements for obtaining a variance; and
- Makes other grammatical, editorial, and conforming changes.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2016.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 112-0