

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Date: March 23, 1998 Revised: _____

Subject: Metropolitan Planning Organizations

	<u>Analyst</u>	<u>Staff Director</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	Schmith	Yeatman	CA	Favorable/CS
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				

I. Summary:

Committee Substitute (CS) for Senate Bill 1578 provides an exception from the minimum MPO membership requirements for county commissioners. The bill authorizes a county commission with fewer than seven members to have one less member during an apportionment period if approved by the county commission and its respective MPO.

The CS amends section 339.175 of the Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Section 339.175, F.S., governs the designation, membership, powers and duties of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, or MPOs. Current law requires at least one MPO within each urbanized area, or group of continuous urbanized areas, to meet federal requirements for obtaining and expending federal transportation funds. Each year, MPOs prepare a multi-year program of transportation improvement projects based on long-term transportation plans and projected needs. The Department of Transportation (DOT) uses the transportation improvement programs of the MPOs when developing its work program (5-year listing of planned transportation projects).

The members of an MPO represent the various governmental entities within the area based on equitable population ratios and geographic factors. Voting membership must be between five and 19 apportioned members. County commissioners must make up at least one-third of the MPO membership, with exceptions for counties meeting specific criteria. However, all county commissioners must be members of their respective MPO.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

The CS amends s. 339.175, F.S., to provide an exception from the county MPO membership requirement during any apportionment period. During such period, the bill authorizes a county commission with fewer than seven members to have one fewer member than currently required, if both the county commission and the respective MPO approve of the exception. However, approval to deviate from the membership requirement expires at the next MPO reapportionment period. Therefore, a subsequent vote of both the county commission and the MPO is required to again deviate from the membership requirement.

The CS provides for an effective date of July 1, 1998.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Amendments:

None.

This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.
