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## By the Council for Ready Infrastructure and Representatives Russell and Green

A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Department of Transportation; amending s. 20.23, F.S.; revising language with respect to the organization of the department; changing the turnpike district into a turnpike enterprise; exempting the turnpike enterprise from department policies, procedures, and standards, subject to the Secretary of Transportation's decision to apply such requirements; providing exceptions to said exemptions; giving the secretary authority to promulgate rules under certain conditions that will assist the turnpike enterprise in using best business practices; amending s. 206.46, F.S.; increasing the debt service cap with respect to the State Transportation Trust Fund; amending s. 316.302, F.S.; revising a date concerning commercial motor vehicles to conform to federal regulations; authorizing the department's Motor Carrier Compliance officers, and duly appointed agents holding a safety inspector certification from the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance, to stop commercial motor vehicles for inspection of the vehicle and driver's records; providing that other law enforcement officers may enforce commercial motor vehicle regulations under certain conditions; requiring that unsafe vehicles and drivers be removed from service under certain conditions; amending s. 316.3025, F.S.; updating a cross reference to federal

trucking regulations; amending s. 316.515, 1 2 F.S.; deleting a requirement for a department 3 permit with respect to the height of automobile 4 transporters; amending s. 316.535, F.S.; adding 5 weight requirements for certain commercial trucks; amending s. 316.545, F.S.; correcting a 6 7 cross reference; providing for the discretion 8 of the department to detain commercial vehicles until certain penalties are paid; amending s. 9 334.044, F.S.; providing for officers employed 10 11 by the department's Office of Motor Carrier 12 Compliance and specifying duties and 13 responsibilities of said officers; authorizing 14 appointment of part-time and auxiliary 15 officers; amending s. 334.193, F.S.; providing 16 for employee bidding by department employees; amending s. 337.025, F.S.; eliminating cap on 17 innovative highway projects for the turnpike 18 enterprise; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; raising 19 20 the cap on certain contracts into which the department can enter without first obtaining 21 22 bids; providing an exemption for a turnpike enterprise project; revising provisions for 23 24 design-build contracts; amending s. 337.185, F.S.; clarifying application of limitation on 25 26 certain claims brought before the State 27 Arbitration Board; amending s. 338.22, F.S.; 28 redesignating the Florida Turnpike Law as the 29 Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law; amending s. 338.221, F.S.; redefining the term 30 31 "economically feasible" as used with respect to

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turnpike projects; creating s. 338.2215, F.S.; providing legislative findings, policy, purpose, and intent for the Florida Turnpike Enterprise; creating s. 338.2216, F.S.; prescribing the power and authority of the turnpike enterprise; amending s. 338.223, F.S.; increasing the maximum loan amount for the turnpike enterprise; amending ss. 338.165 and 338.227, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending s. 338.2275, F.S.; authorizing the turnpike enterprise to advertise for bids for contracts prior to obtaining environmental permits; amending s. 338.234, F.S.; authorizing the turnpike enterprise to expand business opportunities; amending s. 338.235, F.S.; authorizing the consideration of goods instead of fees; amending s. 338.239, F.S.; providing that approved expenditure to the Florida Highway Patrol be paid by the turnpike enterprise; amending s. 338.241, F.S.; lowering the required cash reserve for the turnpike enterprise; amending s. 338.251, F.S.; conforming provisions; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; including reference to turnpike enterprise with respect to the tentative work program; revising language with respect to the tentative work program; amending s. 553.80, F.S.; providing for self-regulation of certain construction; providing effective dates.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (4) of section 20.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.23 Department of Transportation.--There is created a Department of Transportation which shall be a decentralized agency.

- (4)(a) The operations of the department shall be organized into seven eight districts, including a turnpike district, each headed by a district secretary and a turnpike enterprise, headed by an executive director. The district secretaries shall report to the Assistant Secretary for District Operations. The headquarters of the districts shall be located in Polk, Columbia, Washington, Broward, Volusia, Dade, and Hillsborough, and Leon Counties. The headquarters of the turnpike enterprise shall be located in Orange County. The turnpike district must be relocated to Orange County in the year 2000. In order to provide for efficient operations and to expedite the decisionmaking process, the department shall provide for maximum decentralization to the districts. However, before making a decision to centralize or decentralize department operations or relocate the turnpike district, the department must first determine if the decision would be cost-effective and in the public's best interest. The department shall periodically evaluate such decisions to ensure that they are appropriate.
- The primary responsibility for the implementation of the department's transportation programs shall be delegated by the secretary to the district secretaries, and sufficient authority shall be vested in each district to ensure adequate control of the resources commensurate with the delegated responsibility. Each district secretary shall also be 31 accountable for ensuring their district's quality of

performance and compliance with all laws, rules, policies, and procedures related to the operation of the department.

- (c) Each district secretary may appoint a district director for planning and programming, a district director for production, and a district director for operations. These positions are exempt from part II of chapter 110.
- (d) Within each district, offices shall be established for managing major functional responsibilities of the department. The offices may include planning, design, construction, right-of-way, maintenance, and public transportation. The heads of these offices shall be exempt from part II of chapter 110.
- (e) The district director for the Fort Myers Urban Office of the Department of Transportation is responsible for developing the 5-year Transportation Plan for Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Glades, Hendry, and Lee Counties. The Fort Myers Urban Office also is responsible for providing policy, direction, local government coordination, and planning for those counties.
- (f)1. The responsibility for the turnpike system shall be delegated by the secretary to the executive director of the turnpike enterprise, who shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The executive director shall report directly to the secretary, and the turnpike enterprise shall operate pursuant to ss. 338.22-338.241.
- 2. To facilitate the most efficient and effective management of the turnpike enterprise, including the use of best business practices employed by the private sector, the turnpike enterprise, except as provided in s. 287.055, shall be exempt from departmental policies, procedures, and standards, subject to the secretary having the authority to

apply any such policies, procedures, and standards to the turnpike enterprise from time to time as deemed appropriate.

3. To enhance the ability of the turnpike enterprise to use best business practices employed by the private sector, the secretary shall promulgate rules which exempt the turnpike enterprise from department rules and authorize the turnpike enterprise to employ procurement methods available to the private sector, provided those methods are not in conflict with s. 287.055.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 206.46, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

206.46 State Transportation Trust Fund. --

(2) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, from the revenues deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund a maximum of 7 percent in each fiscal year shall be transferred into the Right-of-Way Acquisition and Bridge Construction Trust Fund created in s. 215.605, as needed to meet the requirements of the documents authorizing the bonds issued or proposed to be issued under ss. 215.605 and 337.276 or at a minimum amount sufficient to pay for the debt service coverage requirements of outstanding bonds. Notwithstanding the 7 percent annual transfer authorized in this subsection, the annual amount transferred under this subsection shall not exceed an amount necessary to provide the required debt service coverage levels for a maximum debt service not to exceed\$200\$135 million. Such transfer shall be payable primarily from the motor and diesel fuel taxes transferred to the State Transportation Trust Fund from the Fuel Tax Collection Trust Fund.

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Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection (8) of section 316.302, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.302 Commercial motor vehicles; safety regulations; transporters and shippers of hazardous materials; enforcement.--

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- (b) Except as otherwise provided in this section, all owners or drivers of commercial motor vehicles that are engaged in intrastate commerce are subject to the rules and regulations contained in 49 C.F.R. parts 382, 385, and 390-397, with the exception of 49 C.F.R. s. 390.5 as it relates to the definition of bus, as such rules and regulations existed on October 1, 2001 March 1, 1999.
- (8) For the purpose of enforcing this section, any law enforcement officer agent of the Department of Transportation or duly appointed agent who holds a current safety inspector certification from the Commercial Vehicle Safety Alliance may require the driver of any commercial vehicle operated on the highways of this state to stop and submit to an inspection of the vehicle or the driver's records described in s. 316.545(9), any member of the Florida Highway Patrol, or any person employed by a sheriff's office or municipal police department who is authorized to enforce the traffic laws of this state pursuant to s. 316.640 may enforce the provisions of this section. Any officer of the Department of Transportation described in s. 316.545(9), any member of the Florida Highway Patrol, or any law enforcement officer employed by a sheriff's office or municipal police department authorized to enforce the traffic laws of this state pursuant to s. 316.640, who has reason to believe that a vehicle or

driver is operating in an unsafe condition, may require the driver to stop and submit to an inspection of the vehicle or the driver's records. Any person who fails to comply with an officer's request to submit to an inspection under this subsection is quilty of a violation of s. 843.02 if the driver resists the officer without violence or a violation of s. 843.01 if the driver resists the officer with violence. If the vehicle or driver is found to be operating in an unsafe condition, or if any required part or equipment is not present or is not in proper repair or adjustment, and the continued operation would probably present an unduly hazardous operating condition, the officer may require the vehicle or the driver to be removed from service pursuant to the North American Uniform Out-of-Service Criteria, until corrected. However, if continuous operation would not present an unduly hazardous operating condition, the officer may give written notice requiring correction of the condition to require proper repair and adjustment of the vehicle within 14 days.

- (a) Any member of the Florida Highway Patrol or any law enforcement officer employed by a sheriff's office or municipal police department authorized to enforce the traffic laws of this state pursuant to s. 316.640 who has reason to believe that a vehicle or driver is operating in an unsafe condition may, as provided in subsection (10), enforce the provisions of this section.
- (b) Any person who fails to comply with an officer's request to submit to an inspection under this subsection commits a violation of s. 843.02 if the person resists the officer without violence or a violation of s. 843.01 if the person resists the officer with violence.

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Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 316.3025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 316.3025 Penalties.--

(3)(a) A civil penalty of \$50 may be assessed for a violation of 49 C.F.R. s. 390.21 s. 316.3027.

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 316.515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.515 Maximum width, height, length.--

(2) HEIGHT LIMITATION. -- No vehicle may exceed a height of 13 feet 6 inches, inclusive of load carried thereon. However, an automobile transporter may, with a permit from the Department of Transportation, measure a height not to exceed 14 feet, inclusive of the load carried thereon.

Section 6. Subsection (6) of section 316.535, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (7), present subsection (7) is renumbered as subsection (8) and amended, and a new subsection (6) is added to said section, to read:

316.535 Maximum weights.--

(6) Dump trucks, concrete mixing trucks, trucks engaged in waste collection and disposal, and fuel oil and gasoline trucks designed and constructed for special type work or use, when operated as a single unit, shall be subject to all safety and operational requirements of law, except that any such vehicle need not conform to the axle spacing requirements of this section provided that such vehicle shall be limited to a total gross load, including the weight of the vehicle, of 20,000 pounds per axle plus scale tolerances and shall not exceed 550 pounds per inch width tire surface plus scale tolerances. No vehicle operating pursuant to this section shall exceed a gross weight, including the weight of 31 the vehicle and scale tolerances, of 70,000 pounds. Any

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vehicle violating the weight provisions of this section shall be penalized as provided in s. 316.545.

(7)<del>(6)</del> The Department of Transportation shall adopt rules to implement this section, shall enforce this section and the rules adopted hereunder, and shall publish and distribute tables and other publications as deemed necessary to inform the public.

(8)<del>(7)</del> Except as hereinafter provided, no vehicle or combination of vehicles exceeding the gross weights specified in subsections (3), (4), and (5), and (6) shall be permitted to travel on the public highways within the state.

Section 7. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 316.545, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

316.545 Weight and load unlawful; special fuel and motor fuel tax enforcement; inspection; penalty; review. --

(2)(a) Whenever an officer, upon weighing a vehicle or combination of vehicles with load, determines that the axle weight or gross weight is unlawful, the officer may require the driver to stop the vehicle in a suitable place and remain standing until a determination can be made as to the amount of weight thereon and, if overloaded, the amount of penalty to be assessed as provided herein. However, any gross weight over and beyond 6,000 pounds beyond the maximum herein set shall be unloaded and all material so unloaded shall be cared for by the owner or operator of the vehicle at the risk of such owner or operator. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, to facilitate compliance with and enforcement of the weight limits established in s. 316.535, weight tables published pursuant to s. 316.535(7) (6) shall include a 10-percent scale 31 tolerance and shall thereby reflect the maximum scaled weights

allowed any vehicle or combination of vehicles. As used in this section, scale tolerance means the allowable deviation from legal weights established in s. 316.535. Notwithstanding any other provision of the weight law, if a vehicle or combination of vehicles does not exceed the gross, external bridge, or internal bridge weight limits imposed in s. 316.535 and the driver of such vehicle or combination of vehicles can comply with the requirements of this chapter by shifting or equalizing the load on all wheels or axles and does so when requested by the proper authority, the driver shall not be held to be operating in violation of said weight limits.

(4)(a) No commercial vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(66), shall be operated over the highways of this state unless it has been properly registered under the provisions of s. 207.004. Whenever any law enforcement officer identified in s. 207.023(1), upon inspecting the vehicle or combination of vehicles, determines that the vehicle is in violation of s. 207.004, a penalty in the amount of \$50 shall be assessed, and the vehicle may shall be detained until payment is collected by the law enforcement officer.

Section 8. Subsection (31) is added to section 334.044, Florida Statutes, to read:

334.044 Department; powers and duties.--The department shall have the following general powers and duties:

(31) In order to fulfill the department's mission to provide a safe and efficient transportation system, the department's Office of Motor Carrier Compliance may employ sworn law enforcement officers, certified in accordance with chapter 943, to enforce the traffic and criminal laws of this state. Such officers shall have full law enforcement powers granted to other peace officers of this state, including

 making arrests, carrying firearms, serving court process, and seizing vehicles defined as contraband under s. 319.33, illegal drugs, stolen property, and the proceeds of illegal activities. Officers appointed under this section have the primary responsibility for enforcing laws relating to size and weight of commercial motor vehicles; safety, traffic, tax, and registration of commercial motor vehicles; interdiction of vehicles defined as contraband under s. 319.33, illegal drugs, and stolen property; and violations that threaten the overall security and safety of Florida's transportation infrastructure and the motoring public. The office is also authorized to appoint part-time or auxiliary law enforcement officers pursuant to chapter 943 and to provide compensation in accordance with law.

Section 9. Section 334.193, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

334.193 Unlawful for certain persons to be financially interested in purchases, sales, and certain contracts; penalties.--

- (1) It is unlawful for a state officer, or an employee or agent of the department, or for any company, corporation, or firm in which a state officer, or an employee or agent of the department has a financial interest, to bid on, enter into, or be personally interested in:
- (a) The purchase or the furnishing of any materials or supplies to be used in the work of the state.
- (b) A contract for the construction of any state road, the sale of any property, or the performance of any other work for which the department is responsible.
  - (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1):

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(a) The department may consider competitive bids or proposals by employees or employee work groups who have a financial interest in matters referenced in paragraphs (1)(a) and (b) when the subject matter of a request for bids or proposals by the department includes functions performed by the employees or employee work groups of the department before the request for bids or proposals. However, if the employees, employee work groups, or entity in which an employee of the department has an interest is the successful bidder or proposer, such employee or employees must resign from department employment upon executing an agreement to perform the matter bid upon.
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(b) The department may consider competitive bids or proposals of employees or employee work groups submitted on behalf of the department to perform the subject matter of requests for bids or proposals. The department may select such bid or proposal for performance of the work by the department.

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The department may update existing rules or adopt new rules pertaining to employee usage of department equipment, facilities, and supplies during business hours for nondepartment activities in order to implement this subsection.

(3) Any person who is convicted of a violation of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and shall be removed from his or her office or employment.

Section 10. Section 337.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.025 Innovative highway projects; department to 1 2 establish program. -- The department is authorized to establish 3 a program for highway projects demonstrating innovative techniques of highway construction, maintenance, and finance 4 5 which have the intended effect of controlling time and cost 6 increases on construction projects. Such techniques may 7 include, but are not limited to, state-of-the-art technology 8 for pavement, safety, and other aspects of highway construction and maintenance; innovative bidding and financing 9 techniques; accelerated construction procedures; and those 10 11 techniques that have the potential to reduce project life 12 cycle costs. To the maximum extent practical, the department 13 must use the existing process to award and administer 14 construction and maintenance contracts. When specific innovative techniques are to be used, the department is not 15 16 required to adhere to those provisions of law that would 17 prevent, preclude, or in any way prohibit the department from using the innovative technique. However, prior to using an 18 19 innovative technique that is inconsistent with another 20 provision of law, the department must document in writing the 21 need for the exception and identify what benefits the 22 traveling public and the affected community are anticipated to receive. The department may enter into no more than \$120 23 million in contracts annually for the purposes authorized by 24 this section. However, the annual cap on contracts provided in 25 26 this section shall not apply to turnpike enterprise projects 27 nor shall turnpike enterprise projects be counted toward the 28 department's annual cap. 29 Section 11. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) and paragraph (c) of subsection (6) of section 337.11, Florida 30 31 Statutes, are amended to read:

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337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders; combined design and construction contracts; progress payments; records; requirements of vehicle registration .--

(3)

(c) No advertisement for bids shall be published and no bid solicitation notice shall be provided until title to all necessary rights-of-way and easements for the construction of the project covered by such advertisement or notice has vested in the state or a local governmental entity, and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. The turnpike enterprise is exempt from this paragraph for a turnpike enterprise project. Title to all necessary rights-of-way shall be deemed to have been vested in the State of Florida when such title has been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription.

(6)

- (c) When the department determines that it is in the best interest of the public for reasons of public concern, economy, improved operations or safety, and only when circumstances dictate rapid completion of the work, the department may, up to the threshold amount of \$120,000 provided in s. 287.017 for CATEGORY FOUR, enter into contracts for construction and maintenance without advertising and receiving competitive bids. However, if legislation is enacted by the Legislature which changes the category thresholds, the threshold amount shall remain at \$60,000. The department may enter into such contracts only upon a determination that the work is necessary for one of the following reasons:
- To ensure timely completion of projects or 31 avoidance of undue delay for other projects;

- 2. To accomplish minor repairs or construction and maintenance activities for which time is of the essence and for which significant cost savings would occur; or
- To accomplish nonemergency work necessary to ensure avoidance of adverse conditions that affect the safe and efficient flow of traffic.

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The department shall make a good faith effort to obtain two or more quotes, if available, from qualified contractors before entering into any contract. The department shall give consideration to disadvantaged business enterprise participation. However, when the work exists within the limits of an existing contract, the department shall make a good faith effort to negotiate and enter into a contract with the prime contractor on the existing contract.

Section 12. Effective July 1, 2003, paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 337.11, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 4 of chapter 2001-350, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders; combined design and construction contracts; progress payments; records; requirements of vehicle registration. --

(7)(a) If the head of the department determines that it is in the best interests of the public, the department may combine the right-of-way services and design and construction phases of a building, a major bridge, a limited access facility, or a rail corridor project into a single contract. Such contract is referred to as a design-build contract. Design-build contracts may be advertised and awarded 31 notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (3)(c). However,

construction activities may not begin on any portion of such 1 2 projects until title to the necessary rights-of-way and 3 easements for the construction of that portion of the project has vested in the state or a local governmental entity and all 4 5 railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. 6 Title to rights-of-way vests in the state when the title has 7 been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription. 8 Section 13. Effective July 1, 2005, paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 337.11, Florida Statutes, as amended 9 by this act, is amended to read: 10 337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids; 11 12 emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders; 13 combined design and construction contracts; progress payments; 14 records; requirements of vehicle registration .--(7)(a) If the head of the department determines that 15 16 it is in the best interests of the public, the department may combine the right-of-way services and design and construction 17 phases of a building, a major bridge, a limited access 18 facility, or a rail corridor project into a single contract. 19 20 Such contract is referred to as a design-build contract. Design-build contracts may be advertised and awarded 21 22 notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (3)(c). However, construction activities may not begin on any portion of such 23 projects until title to the necessary rights-of-way and 24 easements for the construction of that portion of the project 25 26 has vested in the state or a local governmental entity and all 27 railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. 28 Title to rights-of-way vests in the state when the title has been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription. 29 Section 14. Subsection (3) of section 337.185, Florida 30

Statutes, is amended to read:

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337.185 State Arbitration Board.--

(3) A hearing may be requested by the department or by a contractor who has a dispute with the department which, under the rules of the board, may be the subject of arbitration. The request is to be made to the board within 820 days after the final acceptance of the work for all contracts entered into after June 30, 1993. The board shall conduct the hearing within 45 days of the request. The party requesting the board's consideration shall give notice of the hearing to each member. If the board finds that a third party is necessary to resolve the dispute, the board may vote to dismiss the claim, which may thereafter be pursued in accordance with the laws of the State of Florida.

Section 15. Subsection (7) of section 338.165, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.165 Continuation of tolls.--

(7) This section does not apply to the turnpike system as defined under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law.

Section 16. Section 338.22, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.22 Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law; short title.--Sections 338.22-338.241 may be cited as the "Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law."

Section 17. Section 338.221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.221 Definitions of terms used in ss. 338.22-338.241.--As used in ss. 338.22-338.241, the following words and terms have the following meanings, unless the context indicates another or different meaning or intent:

(1) "Bonds" or "revenue bonds" means notes, bonds, 31 refunding bonds or other evidences of indebtedness or

obligations, in either temporary or definitive form, issued by the Division of Bond Finance on behalf of the department and authorized under the provisions of ss. 338.22-338.241 and the State Bond Act.

- (2) "Cost," as applied to a turnpike project, includes the cost of acquisition of all land, rights-of-way, property, easements, and interests acquired by the department for turnpike project construction; the cost of such construction; the cost of all machinery and equipment, financing charges, fees, and expenses related to the financing; establishment of reserves to secure bonds; interest prior to and during construction and for such period after completion of construction as shall be determined by the department; the cost of traffic estimates and of engineering and legal expenses, plans, specifications, surveys, estimates of cost and revenues; other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicability of acquiring or constructing any such turnpike project; administrative expenses; and such other expenses as may be necessary or incident to the acquisition or construction of a turnpike project, the financing of such acquisition or construction, and the placing of the turnpike project in operation.
- (3) "Feeder road" means any road no more than 5 miles in length, connecting to the turnpike system which the department determines is necessary to create or facilitate access to a turnpike project.
- (4) "Owner" includes any person or any governmental entity that has title to, or an interest in, any property, right, easement, or interest authorized to be acquired pursuant to ss. 338.22-338.241.

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- (5) "Revenues" means all tolls, charges, rentals, gifts, grants, moneys, and other funds coming into the possession, or under the control, of the department by virtue of the provisions hereof, except the proceeds from the sale of bonds issued under ss. 338.22-338.241.
- (6) "Turnpike system" means those limited access toll highways and associated feeder roads and other structures, appurtenances, or rights previously designated, acquired, or constructed pursuant to the Florida Turnpike <a href="Enterprise">Enterprise</a> Law and such other additional turnpike projects as may be acquired or constructed as approved by the Legislature.
- (7) "Turnpike improvement" means any betterment necessary or desirable for the operation of the turnpike system, including, but not limited to, widenings, the addition of interchanges to the existing turnpike system, resurfacings, toll plazas, machinery, and equipment.
- (8) "Economically feasible" <u>for a proposed turnpike</u>

  <u>project</u> means <u>that the revenues of the project in combination</u>

  <u>with those of the existing turnpike system are sufficient to</u>

  service the debt of the outstanding turnpike bonds.÷
- (a) For a proposed turnpike project, that, as determined by the department before the issuance of revenue bonds for the project, the estimated net revenues of the proposed turnpike project, excluding feeder roads and turnpike improvements, will be sufficient to pay at least 50 percent of the debt service on the bonds by the end of the 5th year of operation and to pay at least 100 percent of the debt service on the bonds by the end of the 15th year of operation. In implementing this paragraph, up to 50 percent of the adopted work program costs of the project may be funded from turnpike revenues.

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(b) For turnpike projects, except for feeder roads and turnpike improvements, financed from revenues of the turnpike system, such project, or such group of projects, originally financed from revenues of the turnpike system, that the project is expected to generate sufficient revenues to amortize project costs within 15 years of opening to traffic.

This subsection does not prohibit the pledging of revenues from the entire turnpike system to bonds issued to finance or refinance a turnpike project or group of turnpike projects.

- (9) "Turnpike project" means any extension to or expansion of the existing turnpike system and new limited access toll highways and associated feeder roads and other structures, interchanges, appurtenances, or rights as may be approved in accordance with the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law.
- (10) "Statement of environmental feasibility" means a statement by the Department of Environmental Protection of the project's significant environmental impacts.

Section 18. Section 338.2215, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

338.2215 Florida Turnpike Enterprise; legislative findings, policy, purpose, and intent. -- It is the intent of the Legislature that the turnpike enterprise be provided additional powers and authority in order to maximize the advantages obtainable through fully leveraging the Florida Turnpike System asset. The additional powers and authority will provide the turnpike enterprise with the autonomy and flexibility to enable it to more easily pursue innovations as well as best practices found in the private sector in management, finance, organization, and operations. The

additional powers and authority are intended to improve 1 2 cost-effectiveness and timeliness of project delivery, 3 increase revenues, expand the turnpike system's capital program capability, and improve the quality of service to its 4 5 patrons, while continuing to protect the turnpike system's 6 bondholders and further preserve, expand, and improve the 7 Florida Turnpike System. 8 Section 19. Section 338.2216, Florida Statutes, is 9 created to read: 10 338.2216 Florida Turnpike Enterprise; powers and 11 authority.--12 (1)(a) In addition to the powers granted to the 13 department, the Florida Turnpike Enterprise has full authority 14 to exercise all powers granted to it under this chapter. Powers shall include, but are not limited to, the ability to 15 16 plan, construct, maintain, repair, and operate the Florida 17 Turnpike System. (b) It is the express intention of this part that the 18 19 Florida Turnpike Enterprise be authorized to plan, develop, 20 own, purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire, demolish, construct, improve, relocate, equip, repair, maintain, 21 22 operate, and manage the Florida Turnpike System; to expend funds to publicize, advertise, and promote the advantages of 23 using the turnpike system and its facilities; and to 24 cooperate, coordinate, partner, and contract with other 25 26 entities, public and private, to accomplish these purposes. 27 (c) The executive director of the turnpike enterprise 28 shall appoint a staff, which shall be exempt from part II of 29 chapter 110. Among the staff shall be chief financial officer, who must be a proven, effective administrator with 30 demonstrated experience in financial management of a large

bonded capital program and must hold an active license to practice public accounting in Florida pursuant to chapter 473. The turnpike enterprise staff shall also include the Office of Toll Operations.

- (2) The department shall have the authority to employ procurement methods available to the Department of Management Services under chapters 255 and 287 and under any rule adopted under such chapters solely for the benefit of the turnpike enterprise. In order to enhance the effective and efficient operation of the turnpike enterprise, the department may adopt rules for procurement procedures alternative to chapters 255, 287, and 337.
- (3)(a) The turnpike enterprise shall be a single budget entity and shall develop a budget pursuant to chapter 216. The turnpike enterprise's budget shall be submitted to the Legislature along with the department's budget.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 to the contrary and in accordance with s. 216.351, the Executive Office of the Governor shall, on July 1 of each year, certify forward all unexpended funds appropriated or provided pursuant to this section for the turnpike enterprise. Of the unexpended funds certified forward, any unencumbered amounts shall be carried forward. Such funds carried forward shall not exceed 5 percent of the total operating budget of the turnpike enterprise. Funds carried forward pursuant to this section may be used for any lawful purpose, including, but not limited to, promotional and market activities, technology, and training. Any certified forward funds remaining undisbursed on December 31 of each year shall be carried forward.

(4) The powers conferred upon the turnpike enterprise

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to the existing powers of the department and the turnpike enterprise, and these powers shall not be construed as repealing any provision of any other law, general or local, but shall supersede such other laws that are inconsistent with the exercise of the powers provided under ss. 338.22-338.241 and provide a complete method for the exercise of such powers granted.

Section 20. Subsection (4) of section 338.223, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.223 Proposed turnpike projects.--

(4) The department is authorized, with the approval of the Legislature, to use federal and state transportation funds to lend or pay a portion of the operating, maintenance, and capital costs of turnpike projects. Federal and state transportation funds included in an adopted work program, or the General Appropriations Act, for a turnpike project do not have to be reimbursed to the State Transportation Trust Fund, or used in determining the economic feasibility of the proposed project. For operating and maintenance loans, the maximum net loan amount in any fiscal year shall not exceed  $1.5 \, \frac{0.5}{0.5}$  percent of state transportation tax revenues for that fiscal year.

Section 21. Subsection (2) of section 338.227, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.227 Turnpike revenue bonds.--

(2) The proceeds of the bonds of each issue shall be used solely for the payment of the cost of the turnpike projects for which such bonds shall have been issued, except as provided in the State Bond Act. Such proceeds shall be disbursed and used as provided by ss. 338.22-338.241 and in 31 such manner and under such restrictions, if any, as the

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Division of Bond Finance may provide in the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or in the trust agreement hereinafter mentioned securing the same. All revenues and bond proceeds from the turnpike system received by the department pursuant to ss. 338.22-338.241, the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law, shall be used only for the cost of turnpike projects and turnpike improvements and for the administration, operation, maintenance, and financing of the turnpike system. No revenues or bond proceeds from the turnpike system shall be spent for the operation, maintenance, construction, or financing of any project which is not part of the turnpike system.

Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 338.2275, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.2275 Approved turnpike projects.--

(2) The department is authorized to use turnpike revenues, the State Transportation Trust Fund moneys allocated for turnpike projects pursuant to s. 338.001, federal funds, and bond proceeds, and shall use the most cost-efficient combination of such funds, in developing a financial plan for funding turnpike projects. The department must submit a report of the estimated cost for each ongoing turnpike project and for each planned project to the Legislature 14 days before the convening of the regular legislative session. Verification of economic feasibility and statements of environmental feasibility for individual turnpike projects must be based on the entire project as approved. Statements of environmental feasibility are not required for those projects listed in s. 12, chapter 90-136, Laws of Florida, for which the Project Development and Environmental Reports were completed by July 31 1, 1990. All required environmental permits must be obtained

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before The department may advertise for bids for contracts for the construction of any turnpike project <u>prior to obtaining</u> required environmental permits.

Section 23. Section 338.234, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.234 Granting concessions or selling along the turnpike system.--

(1) The department may enter into contracts or licenses with any person for the sale of grant concessions or sell services or products or business opportunities on along the turnpike system, or the turnpike enterprise may sell services, products, or business opportunities on the turnpike system, which benefit the traveling public or provide additional revenue to the turnpike system. Services, business opportunities, and products authorized to be sold include, but are not limited to, the sale of motor fuel, vehicle towing, and vehicle maintenance services; the sale of food with attendant nonalcoholic beverages; lodging, meeting rooms, and other business services opportunities; advertising and other promotional opportunities, which advertising and promotions must be consistent with the dignity and integrity of the state; the sale of state lottery tickets sold by authorized retailers; games and amusements that the granting of concessions for amusement devices which operate by the application of skill, not including games of chance as defined in s. 849.16 or other illegal gambling games; the sale of Florida citrus, goods promoting the state, or handmade goods produced within the state;  $\underline{\text{and}}$  the granting of concessions for equipment which provides travel information, or tickets, reservations, or other related services; and the granting of concessions which provide banking and other business services.

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The department may also provide information centers on the plazas for the benefit of the public.

The department may provide an opportunity for

(2) The department may provide an opportunity for governmental agencies to hold public events at turnpike plazas which educate the traveling public as to safety, travel, and tourism.

Section 24. Subsection (3) of section 338.235, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.235 Contracts with department for provision of services on the turnpike system.--

(3) The department may enter into contracts or agreements, with or without competitive bidding or procurement, to make available, on a fair, reasonable, nonexclusive, and nondiscriminatory basis, turnpike property and other turnpike structures, for the placement of wireless facilities by any wireless provider of mobile services as defined in 47 U.S.C. s. 153(n) or s. 332(d), and any telecommunications company as defined in s. 364.02 when it is determined to be practical and feasible to make such property or structures available. The department may, without adopting a rule, charge a just, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory fee for placement of the facilities, payable annually, based on the fair market value of space used by comparable communications facilities in the state. The department and a wireless provider may negotiate the reduction or elimination of a fee in consideration of goods or services service provided to the department by the wireless provider. All such fees collected by the department shall be deposited directly into the State Agency Law Enforcement Radio System Trust Fund and may be used to construct, maintain, or support the system.

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Section 25. Subsection (2) of section 338.239, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.239 Traffic control on the turnpike system.--

(2) Members of the Florida Highway Patrol are vested with the power, and charged with the duty, to enforce the rules of the department. Approved expenditures Expenses incurred by the Florida Highway Patrol in carrying out its powers and duties under ss. 338.22-338.241 may be treated as a part of the cost of the operation of the turnpike system, and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall be reimbursed by the turnpike enterprise Department of Transportation for such expenses incurred on the turnpike system mainline, which is that part of the turnpike system extending from the southern terminus in Florida City to the northern terminus in Wildwood including all contiguous sections. Florida Highway Patrol Troop K shall be headquartered with the turnpike enterprise and shall be the official and preferred law enforcement troop for the turnpike system. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles may, upon request of the executive director of the turnpike enterprise and approval of the Legislature, increase the number of authorized positions for Troop K, or the executive director of the turnpike enterprise may contract with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles for additional troops to patrol the turnpike system.

Section 26. Section 338.241, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.241 Cash reserve requirement.--The budget for the turnpike system shall be so planned as to provide for a cash reserve at the end of each fiscal year of not less than 5  $\frac{10}{10}$ 31 percent of the unpaid balance of all turnpike system

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contractual obligations, excluding bond obligations, to be paid from revenues.

Section 27. Section 338.251, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.251 Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund. -- The Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund is hereby created for the purpose of encouraging the development and enhancing the financial feasibility of revenue-producing road projects undertaken by local governmental entities in a county or combination of contiguous counties and the turnpike enterprise.

- (1) The department is authorized to advance funds for preliminary engineering, traffic and revenue studies, environmental impact studies, financial advisory services, engineering design, right-of-way map preparation, other appropriate project-related professional services, and advanced right-of-way acquisition to expressway authorities, the turnpike enterprise, counties, or other local governmental entities that desire to undertake revenue-producing road projects.
- (2) No funds shall be advanced pursuant to this section unless the following is documented to the department:
- The proposed facility is consistent with the adopted transportation plan of the appropriate metropolitan planning organization and the Florida Transportation Plan.
- (b) A proposed 2-year budget detailing the use of the cash advance and a project schedule consistent with the budget.
- (3) Prior to receiving any moneys for advance right-of-way acquisition, it shall be shown that such 31 | right-of-way will substantially appreciate prior to

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construction and that savings will result from its advance purchase. Any such request for moneys for advance right-of-way acquisition shall be accompanied by a preliminary engineering study, environmental impact study, traffic and revenue study, and right-of-way maps along with either a negotiated contract for purchase of the right-of-way, such contract to include a clause stating that it is subject to funding by the department or the Legislature, or an appraisal of the subject property for purpose of condemnation proceedings.

- (4) Each advance pursuant to this section shall require repayment out of the initial bond issue revenue or, at the discretion of the governmental entity or the turnpike enterprise of the facility, repayment shall begin no later than 7 years after the date of the advance, provided repayment shall be completed no later than 12 years after the date of the advance. However, such election shall be made at the time of the initial bond issue, and, if repayment is to be made during the time period referred to above, a schedule of such repayment shall be submitted to the department.
- (5) No amount in excess of \$1.5 million annually shall be advanced to any one governmental entity or the turnpike enterprise pursuant to this section without specific appropriation by the Legislature.
- (6) Funds may not be advanced for funding final design costs beyond 60 percent completion until an acceptable plan to finance all project costs, including the reimbursement of outstanding trust fund advances, is approved by the department.
- (7) The department may advance funds sufficient to 31 defray shortages in toll revenues of facilities receiving

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funds pursuant to this section for the first 5 years of operation, up to a maximum of \$5 million per year, to be reimbursed to this fund within 5 years of the last advance hereunder. Any advance under this provision shall require specific appropriation by the Legislature.

- (8) No expressway authority, county, or other local governmental entity, or the turnpike enterprise, shall be eligible to receive any advance under this section if the expressway authority, county, or other local governmental entity or the turnpike enterprise has failed to repay any previous advances as required by law or by agreement with the department.
- (9) Repayment of funds advanced, including advances made prior to January 1, 1994, shall not include interest. However, interest accruing to local governmental entities and the turnpike enterprise from the investment of advances shall be paid to the department.
- (10) Any repayment of prior or future advances made from the State Transportation Trust Fund which were used to fund any project phase of a toll facility, shall be deposited in the Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund. However, when funds advanced to the Seminole County Expressway Authority pursuant to this section are repaid to the Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund by or on behalf of the Seminole County Expressway Authority, those funds shall thereupon and forthwith be appropriated for and advanced to the Seminole County Expressway Authority for funding the design of and the advanced right-of-way acquisition for that segment of the Seminole County Expressway extending from U.S. Highway 17/92 to Interstate Highway 4. Notwithstanding subsection (6), when 31 | funds previously advanced to the Orlando-Orange County

Expressway Authority are repaid to the Toll Facilities 1 2 Revolving Trust Fund by or on behalf of the Orlando-Orange 3 County Expressway Authority, those funds may thereupon and forthwith be appropriated for and advanced to the Seminole 4 5 County Expressway Authority for funding that segment of the Seminole County Expressway extending from U.S. Highway 17/92 6 7 to Interstate Highway 4. Any funds advanced to the 8 Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority pursuant to 9 this section which have been or will be repaid on or after July 1, 1998, to the Toll Facilities Revolving Trust Fund on 10 11 behalf of the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority 12 shall thereupon and forthwith be appropriated for and advanced 13 to the Tampa-Hillsborough County Expressway Authority for 14 funding the design of and the advanced right-of-way acquisition for the Brandon area feeder roads, capital 15 16 improvements to increase capacity to the expressway system, and Lee Roy Selmon Crosstown Expressway System Widening as 17 authorized under s. 348.565. 18

(11) The department shall adopt rules necessary for the implementation of this section, including rules for project selection and funding.

Section 28. Paragraphs (a), (f), and (g) of subsection (4) of section 339.135, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

339.135 Work program; legislative budget request; definitions; preparation, adoption, execution, and amendment.--

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- (4) FUNDING AND DEVELOPING A TENTATIVE WORK PROGRAM. --
- (a)1. To assure that no district or county is 29 penalized for local efforts to improve the State Highway System, the department shall, for the purpose of developing a 30 tentative work program, allocate funds for new construction to

the districts, except for the turnpike <a href="enterprise">enterprise</a> district, based on equal parts of population and motor fuel tax collections. Funds for resurfacing, bridge repair and rehabilitation, bridge fender system construction or repair, public transit projects except public transit block grants as provided in s. 341.052, and other programs with quantitative needs assessments shall be allocated based on the results of these assessments. The department may not transfer any funds allocated to a district under this paragraph to any other district except as provided in subsection (7). Funds for public transit block grants shall be allocated to the districts pursuant to s. 341.052.

- 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph 1., the department shall allocate at least 50 percent of any new discretionary highway capacity funds to the Florida Intrastate Highway System established pursuant to s. 338.001. Any remaining new discretionary highway capacity funds shall be allocated to the districts for new construction as provided in subparagraph 1. For the purposes of this subparagraph, the term "new discretionary highway capacity funds" means any funds available to the department above the prior year funding level for capacity improvements, which the department has the discretion to allocate to highway projects.
- (f) The central office shall submit a preliminary copy of the tentative work program to the Executive Office of the Governor, the legislative appropriations committees, the Florida Transportation Commission, and the Department of Community Affairs at least 14 days prior to the convening of the regular legislative session. Prior to the statewide public hearing required by paragraph (g), the Department of Community Affairs shall transmit to the Florida Transportation

Commission a list of those projects and project phases contained in the tentative work program which are identified as being inconsistent with approved local government comprehensive plans. For urbanized areas of metropolitan planning organizations, the list may not contain any project or project phase that is scheduled in a transportation improvement program unless such inconsistency has been previously reported to the affected metropolitan planning organization. The commission shall consider the list as part of its evaluation of the tentative work program conducted pursuant to s. 20.23.

(g)<u>1.</u> The Florida Transportation Commission shall conduct a statewide public hearing on the tentative work program and shall advertise the time, place, and purpose of the hearing in the Florida Administrative Weekly at least 7 days prior to the hearing. As part of the statewide public hearing, the commission shall, at a minimum:

 $\underline{a.1.}$  Conduct an in-depth evaluation of the tentative work program as required in s. 20.23 for compliance with applicable laws and departmental policies; and

 $\underline{\text{b.2.}}$  Hear all questions, suggestions, or other comments offered by the public.

- $\underline{2}$ . By no later than 14 days after the regular legislative session begins, the commission shall submit to the Executive Office of the Governor and the legislative appropriations committees a report that evaluates the tentative work program for:
  - a. Financial soundness;
  - b. Stability;
  - c. Production capacity;

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- d. Accomplishments, including compliance with program objectives in s. 334.046;
- e. Compliance with approved local government comprehensive plans;
- $\label{eq:f.objections} \mbox{ f. Objections and requests by metropolitan planning organizations;}$ 
  - g. Policy changes and effects thereof;
- h. Identification of statewide or regional projects; and
- i. Compliance with all other applicable laws. Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 553.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

553.80 Enforcement.--

- (1) Except as provided in paragraphs  $\underline{(a)-(f)(a)-(e)}$ , each local government and each legally constituted enforcement district with statutory authority shall regulate building construction and, where authorized in the state agency's enabling legislation, each state agency shall enforce the Florida Building Code required by this part on all public or private buildings, structures, and facilities, unless such responsibility has been delegated to another unit of government pursuant to s. 553.79(9).
- (a) Construction regulations relating to correctional facilities under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and the Department of Juvenile Justice are to be enforced exclusively by those departments.
- (b) Construction regulations relating to elevator equipment under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Elevators of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall be enforced exclusively by that department.

- In addition to the requirements of s. 553.79 and this section, facilities subject to the provisions of chapter 395 and part II of chapter 400 shall have facility plans reviewed and construction surveyed by the state agency authorized to do so under the requirements of chapter 395 and part II of chapter 400 and the certification requirements of the Federal Government.
- (d) Building plans approved pursuant to s. 553.77(6) and state-approved manufactured buildings, including buildings manufactured and assembled offsite and not intended for habitation, such as lawn storage buildings and storage sheds, are exempt from local code enforcing agency plan reviews except for provisions of the code relating to erection, assembly, or construction at the site. Erection, assembly, and construction at the site are subject to local permitting and inspections.
- (e) Construction regulations governing public schools, state universities, and community colleges shall be enforced as provided in subsection (6).
- (f) The Florida Building Code as it pertains to toll collection facilities under the jurisdiction of the turnpike enterprise of the Department of Transportation shall be enforced exclusively by the turnpike enterprise.

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The governing bodies of local governments may provide a schedule of fees, as authorized by s. 125.56(2) or s. 166.222 and this section, for the enforcement of the provisions of this part. Such fees shall be used solely for carrying out the local government's responsibilities in enforcing the Florida Building Code. The authority of state enforcing 31 agencies to set fees for enforcement shall be derived from

authority existing on July 1, 1998. However, nothing contained in this subsection shall operate to limit such agencies from adjusting their fee schedule in conformance with existing authority. Section 30. Except as otherwise provided herein, this act shall take effect July 1, 2002.