By the Committees on Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations; Transportation; and Senator Baker

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

A bill to be entitled 1 2 An act relating to the Department of Transportation; 3 amending s. 20.23, F.S.; providing Senior Management 4 Service status to the Executive Director of the Florida 5 Transportation Commission; amending s. 125.42, F.S.; 6 providing an exception to utility owners from the 7 responsibility for relocating utilities along county roads 8 and highways; amending s. 163.3177, F.S.; revising 9 requirements for comprehensive plans; providing for airports, land adjacent to airports, and certain 10 11 interlocal agreements relating thereto in certain elements 12 of the plan; amending s. 163.3182, F.S., relating to transportation concurrency backlog authorities; providing 13 14 legislative findings and declarations; expanding the power 15 of authorities to borrow money to include issuing certain debt obligations; providing a maximum maturity date for 16 17 certain debt incurred to finance or refinance certain 18 transportation concurrency backlog projects; authorizing 19 authorities to continue operations and administer certain trust funds for the period of the remaining outstanding 20 2.1 debt; requiring local transportation concurrency backlog 22 trust funds to continue to be funded for certain purposes; 23 providing for increased ad valorem tax increment funding 24 for such trust funds under certain circumstances; revising 2.5 provisions for dissolution of an authority; amending s. 26 316.0741, F.S.; redefining the term "hybrid vehicle"; 27 authorizing the driving of a hybrid, low-emission, or 28 energy-efficient vehicle in a high-occupancy-vehicle lane 29 regardless of occupancy; authorizing the department to

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

limit or discontinue such driving under certain circumstances; exempting such vehicles from the payment of certain tolls; amending s. 316.193, F.S.; lowering the blood-alcohol or breath-alcohol level for which enhanced penalties are imposed against a person who was accompanied in the vehicle by a minor at the time of the offense; clarifying that an ignition interlock device is installed for a continuous period; amending s. 316.302, F.S.; revising the application of certain federal rules; providing for the department to perform certain duties assigned under federal rules; updating a reference to federal provisions governing out-of-service requirements for commercial vehicles; amending ss. 316.613 and 316.614, F.S.; revising the definition of "motor vehicle" for purposes of child restraint and safety belt usage requirements; amending s. 316.656, F.S.; lowering the percentage of blood or breath alcohol content relating to the prohibition against pleading guilty to a lesser offense of driving under the influence than the offense charged; amending s. 322.64, F.S.; providing that refusal to submit to a breath, urine, or blood test disqualifies a person from operating a commercial motor vehicle; providing a period of disqualification if a person has an unlawful blood-alcohol or breath-alcohol level; providing for issuance of a notice of disqualification; revising the requirements for a formal review hearing following a person's disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle; amending s. 336.41, F.S.; providing that a county, municipality, or special district may not own or

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

operate an asphalt plant or a portable or stationary concrete batch plant having an independent mixer; amending s. 337.11, F.S.; authorizing the department to pay stipends to unsuccessful bidders on construction and maintenance contracts; amending s. 337.18, F.S.; revising the recording requirements of payment and performance bonds; amending s. 337.185, F.S.; providing for maintenance contracts to be included in the types of claims settled by the State Arbitration Board; amending s. 337.403, F.S.; providing for the department or a local governmental entity to pay the costs of removing or relocating a utility that is interfering with the use of a road or rail corridor; amending s. 338.01, F.S.; requiring that newly installed electronic toll collection systems be interoperable with the department's electronic toll collection system; amending s. 338.165, F.S.; providing that provisions requiring the continuation of tolls following the discharge of bond indebtedness does not apply to high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes; creating s. 338.166, F.S.; authorizing the department to request that bonds be issued which are secured by toll revenues from high-occupancy toll or express lanes in a specified location; providing for the department to continue to collect tolls after discharge of indebtedness; authorizing the use of excess toll revenues for improvements to the State Highway System; authorizing the implementation of variable rate tolls on high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes; amending s. 338.2216, F.S.; directing the turnpike enterprise to develop new

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

technologies and processes for the collection of tolls and usage fees; prohibiting the enterprise from entering into certain joint contracts for the sale of fuel and other goods; providing an exception; providing restrictions on contracts pertaining to service plazas; amending s. 338.223, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 338.231, F.S.; eliminating reference to uniform toll rates on the Florida Turnpike System; authorizing the department to fix by rule and collect the amounts needed to cover toll collection costs; amending s. 339.12, F.S.; clarifying a provision specifying a maximum total amount of project agreements for certain projects; authorizing the department to enter into certain agreements with counties having a specified maximum population; defining the term "project phase"; requiring that a project or project phase be a high priority of a governmental entity; providing for reimbursement for a project or project phase; specifying a maximum total amount for certain projects and project phases; requiring that such project be included in the local government's adopted comprehensive plan; authorizing the department to enter into long-term repayment agreements up to a specified maximum length; amending s. 339.135, F.S.; revising certain notice provisions that require the Department of Transportation to notify local governments regarding amendments to an adopted 5-year work program; amending s. 339.155, F.S.; revising provisions for development of the Florida Transportation Plan; amending s. 339.2816, F.S., relating to the small county road assistance program;

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

providing for resumption of certain funding for the program; revising the criteria for counties eligible to participate in the program; amending ss. 339.2819 and 339.285, F.S.; conforming cross-references; amending s. 348.0003, F.S.; providing for financial disclosure for expressway, transportation, bridge, and toll authorities; amending s. 348.0004, F.S.; providing for certain expressway authorities to index toll rate increases; repealing part III of ch. 343 F.S.; abolishing the Tampa Bay Commuter Transit Authority; requiring the department to conduct a study of transportation alternatives for the Interstate 95 corridor; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to continue to contract for Medicaid nonemergency transportation services in a specified agency service area with managed care plans under certain conditions; amending s. 427.011, F.S.; revising definitions; defining the term "purchasing agency"; amending s. 427.012, F.S.; revising the number of members required for a quorum at a meeting of the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged; amending s. 427.013, F.S.; revising responsibilities of the commission; deleting a requirement that the commission establish by rule acceptable ranges of trip costs; removing a provision for functioning and oversight of the quality assurance and management review program; requiring the commission to incur expenses for promotional services and items; amending s. 427.0135, F.S.; revising and creating duties and responsibilities for agencies that purchase transportation services for the transportation

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

disadvantaged; providing requirements for the payment of rates; requiring an agency to negotiate with the commission before procuring transportation disadvantaged services; requiring an agency to identify its allocation for transportation disadvantaged services in its legislative budget request; amending s. 427.015, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the function of the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency; amending s. 427.0155, F.S.; revising duties of community transportation coordinators; amending s. 427.0157, F.S.; revising duties of coordinating boards; amending s. 427.0158, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the school board to provide information relating to school buses to the transportation coordinator; providing for the transportation coordinator to request certain information regarding public transportation; amending s. 427.0159, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund; providing for the deposit of funds by an agency purchasing transportation services; amending s. 427.016, F.S.; providing for construction and application of specified provisions to certain acts of a purchasing agency in lieu of the Medicaid agency; requiring that an agency identify the allocation of funds for transportation disadvantaged services in its legislative budget request; amending s. 479.01, F.S.; redefining the term "automatic changeable facing" as used in provisions governing outdoor advertising; amending s. 479.07, F.S.; revising the locations within which signs require permitting; providing requirements for the

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

placement of permit tags; requiring the department to establish by rule a service fee and specifications for replacement tags; amending s. 479.08, F.S.; deleting a provision allowing a sign permittee to correct false information that was knowingly provided to the department; requiring the department to include certain information in the notice of violation; amending s. 479.156, F.S.; modifying local government control of the regulation of wall murals adjacent to certain federal highways; amending s. 479.261, F.S.; revising requirements for the logo sign program of the interstate highway system; deleting provisions providing for permits to be awarded to the highest bidders; requiring the department to implement a rotation-based logo program; requiring the department to adopt rules that set reasonable rates based on certain factors for annual permit fees; requiring that such fees not exceed a certain amount for sign locations inside and outside an urban area; amending s. 212.0606, F.S.; providing for the imposition by countywide referendum of an additional surcharge on the lease or rental of a motor vehicle; providing the proceeds of the surcharge to be transferred to the Local Option Fuel Tax Trust Fund and used for the construction and maintenance of commuter rail service facilities; providing definitions relating to commuter rail service, rail corridors, and railroad operation for purposes of the rail program within the department; amending s. 341.302, F.S.; authorizing the department to purchase specified property for the purpose of implementing commuter rail service; authorizing the

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

department to assume certain liability on a rail corridor; authorizing the department to indemnify and hold harmless a railroad company when the department acquires a rail corridor from the company; providing allocation of risk; providing a specific cap on the amount of the contractual duty for such indemnification; authorizing the department to purchase and provide insurance in relation to rail corridors; authorizing marketing and promotional expenses; extending provisions to other governmental entities providing commuter rail service on public right-of-way; amending s. 768.28, F.S.; expanding the list of entities considered agents of the state; providing for construction in relation to certain federal laws; providing an effective date.

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

- Section 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (2) 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.

(2)

(h) The commission shall appoint an executive director and assistant executive director, who shall serve under the direction, supervision, and control of the commission. The executive director, with the consent of the commission, shall employ such staff as are necessary to perform adequately the functions of the commission, within budgetary limitations. All

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

employees of the commission are exempt from part II of chapter 110 and shall serve at the pleasure of the commission. The salary and benefits of the executive director shall be set in accordance with the Senior Management Service. The salaries and benefits of all other employees of the commission shall be set in accordance with the Selected Exempt Service; provided, however, that the commission has shall have complete authority for fixing the salary of the executive director and assistant executive director.

- Section 2. Subsection (5) of section 125.42, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 125.42 Water, sewage, gas, power, telephone, other utility, and television lines along county roads and highways.--
- (5) In the event of widening, repair, or reconstruction of any such road, the licensee shall move or remove such water, sewage, gas, power, telephone, and other utility lines and television lines at no cost to the county except as provided in s. 337.403(1)(e).
- Section 3. Paragraphs (a), (h), and (j) of subsection (6) of section 163.3177, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 163.3177 Required and optional elements of comprehensive plan; studies and surveys.--
- (6) In addition to the requirements of subsections (1)-(5) and (12), the comprehensive plan shall include the following elements:
- (a) A future land use plan element designating proposed future general distribution, location, and extent of the uses of land for residential uses, commercial uses, industry, agriculture, recreation, conservation, education, public

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

buildings and grounds, other public facilities, and other categories of the public and private uses of land. Counties are encouraged to designate rural land stewardship areas, pursuant to the provisions of paragraph (11)(d), as overlays on the future land use map. 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. The proposed distribution, location, and extent of the various categories of land use shall be shown on a land use map or map series which shall be supplemented by goals, policies, and measurable objectives. The future land use plan shall be based upon surveys, studies, and data regarding the area, including the amount of land required to accommodate anticipated growth; the projected population of the area; the character of undeveloped land; the availability of water supplies, public facilities, and services; the need for redevelopment, including the renewal of blighted areas and the elimination of nonconforming uses which are inconsistent with the character of the community; the compatibility of uses on lands adjacent to or closely proximate to military installations; lands adjacent to an airport as defined in s. 330.35 and consistent with provisions in s. 333.02; and, in rural communities, the need for job creation, capital investment, and economic development that will strengthen and diversify the community's economy. The future land use plan may designate areas for future planned development use involving combinations of types of uses for which special regulations may be necessary to ensure development in accord with the principles and standards of the comprehensive plan and this act. The future land use plan element shall include

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

criteria to be used to achieve the compatibility of adjacent or closely proximate lands with military installations; lands adjacent to an airport as defined in s. 330.35 and consistent with provisions in s. 333.02. In addition, for rural communities, the amount of land designated for future planned industrial use shall be based upon surveys and studies that reflect the need for job creation, capital investment, and the necessity to strengthen and diversify the local economies, and shall not be limited solely by the projected population of the rural community. The future land use plan of a county may also designate areas for possible future municipal incorporation. The land use maps or map series shall generally identify and depict historic district boundaries and shall designate historically significant properties meriting protection. For coastal counties, the future land use element must include, without limitation, regulatory incentives and criteria that encourage the preservation of recreational and commercial working waterfronts as defined in s. 342.07. The future land use element must clearly identify the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use. When delineating the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use, a local government shall include in the categories sufficient land proximate to residential development to meet the projected needs for schools in coordination with public school boards and may establish differing criteria for schools of different type or size. Each local government shall include lands contiguous to existing school sites, to the maximum extent possible, within the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use. The failure by a local government to comply with these school siting requirements will result in

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

the prohibition of the local government's ability to amend the local comprehensive plan, except for plan amendments described in s. 163.3187(1)(b), until the school siting requirements are met. Amendments proposed by a local government for purposes of identifying the land use categories in which public schools are an allowable use are exempt from the limitation on the frequency of plan amendments contained in s. 163.3187. The future land use element shall include criteria that encourage the location of schools proximate to urban residential areas to the extent possible and shall require that the local government seek to collocate public facilities, such as parks, libraries, and community centers, with schools to the extent possible and to encourage the use of elementary schools as focal points for neighborhoods. For schools serving predominantly rural counties, defined as a county with a population of 100,000 or fewer, an agricultural land use category shall be eligible for the location of public school facilities if the local comprehensive plan contains school siting criteria and the location is consistent with such criteria. Local governments required to update or amend their comprehensive plan to include criteria and address compatibility of lands adjacent to an airport as defined in s. 330.35 and consistent with provisions in s. 333.02 adjacent or closely proximate lands with existing military installations in their future land use plan element shall transmit the update or amendment to the state land planning agency department by June 30, 2011 <del>2006</del>.

(h)1. An intergovernmental coordination element showing relationships and stating principles and guidelines to be used in the accomplishment of coordination of the adopted comprehensive

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

plan with the plans of school boards, regional water supply authorities, and other units of local government providing services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land, with the comprehensive plans of adjacent municipalities, the county, adjacent counties, or the region, with the state comprehensive plan and with the applicable regional water supply plan approved pursuant to s. 373.0361, as the case may require and as such adopted plans or plans in preparation may exist. This element of the local comprehensive plan shall demonstrate consideration of the particular effects of the local plan, when adopted, upon the development of adjacent municipalities, the county, adjacent counties, or the region, or upon the state comprehensive plan, as the case may require.

- a. The intergovernmental coordination element shall provide for procedures to identify and implement joint planning areas, especially for the purpose of annexation, municipal incorporation, and joint infrastructure service areas.
- b. The intergovernmental coordination element shall provide for recognition of campus master plans prepared pursuant to s. 1013.30, and airport master plans pursuant to paragraph (k).
- c. The intergovernmental coordination element may provide for a voluntary dispute resolution process as established pursuant to s. 186.509 for bringing to closure in a timely manner intergovernmental disputes. A local government may develop and use an alternative local dispute resolution process for this purpose.
- d. The intergovernmental coordination element shall provide for interlocal agreements, as established pursuant to s. 333.03(1)(b).

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

- The intergovernmental coordination element shall further state principles and guidelines to be used in the accomplishment of coordination of the adopted comprehensive plan with the plans of school boards and other units of local government providing facilities and services but not having regulatory authority over the use of land. In addition, the intergovernmental coordination element shall describe joint processes for collaborative planning and decisionmaking on population projections and public school siting, the location and extension of public facilities subject to concurrency, and siting facilities with countywide significance, including locally unwanted land uses whose nature and identity are established in an agreement. Within 1 year of adopting their intergovernmental coordination elements, each county, all the municipalities within that county, the district school board, and any unit of local government service providers in that county shall establish by interlocal or other formal agreement executed by all affected entities, the joint processes described in this subparagraph consistent with their adopted intergovernmental coordination elements.
- 3. To foster coordination between special districts and local general-purpose governments as local general-purpose governments implement local comprehensive plans, each independent special district must submit a public facilities report to the appropriate local government as required by s. 189.415.
- 4.a. Local governments must execute an interlocal agreement with the district school board, the county, and nonexempt municipalities pursuant to s. 163.31777. The local government shall amend the intergovernmental coordination element to provide that coordination between the local government and school board

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

is pursuant to the agreement and shall state the obligations of the local government under the agreement.

- b. Plan amendments that comply with this subparagraph are exempt from the provisions of s. 163.3187(1).
- 5. The state land planning agency shall establish a schedule for phased completion and transmittal of plan amendments to implement subparagraphs 1., 2., and 3. from all jurisdictions so as to accomplish their adoption by December 31, 1999. A local government may complete and transmit its plan amendments to carry out these provisions prior to the scheduled date established by the state land planning agency. The plan amendments are exempt from the provisions of s. 163.3187(1).
- 6. By January 1, 2004, any county having a population greater than 100,000, and the municipalities and special districts within that county, shall submit a report to the Department of Community Affairs which:
- a. Identifies all existing or proposed interlocal service delivery agreements regarding the following: education; sanitary sewer; public safety; solid waste; drainage; potable water; parks and recreation; and transportation facilities.
- b. Identifies any deficits or duplication in the provision of services within its jurisdiction, whether capital or operational. Upon request, the Department of Community Affairs shall provide technical assistance to the local governments in identifying deficits or duplication.
- 7. Within 6 months after submission of the report, the Department of Community Affairs shall, through the appropriate regional planning council, coordinate a meeting of all local governments within the regional planning area to discuss the

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

reports and potential strategies to remedy any identified deficiencies or duplications.

- 8. Each local government shall update its intergovernmental coordination element based upon the findings in the report submitted pursuant to subparagraph 6. The report may be used as supporting data and analysis for the intergovernmental coordination element.
- (j) For each unit of local government within an urbanized area designated for purposes of s. 339.175, a transportation element, which shall be prepared and adopted in lieu of the requirements of paragraph (b) and paragraphs (7)(a), (b), (c), and (d) and which shall address the following issues:
- 1. Traffic circulation, including major thoroughfares and other routes, including bicycle and pedestrian ways.
- 2. All alternative modes of travel, such as public transportation, pedestrian, and bicycle travel.
  - 3. Parking facilities.
- 4. Aviation, rail, seaport facilities, access to those facilities, and intermodal terminals.
- 5. The availability of facilities and services to serve existing land uses and the compatibility between future land use and transportation elements.
- 6. The capability to evacuate the coastal population prior to an impending natural disaster.
- 7. Airports, projected airport and aviation development, and land use compatibility around airports that includes areas defined in s. 333.01 and s. 333.02.
- 8. An identification of land use densities, building intensities, and transportation management programs to promote

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

public transportation systems in designated public transportation corridors so as to encourage population densities sufficient to support such systems.

- 9. May include transportation corridors, as defined in s. 334.03, intended for future transportation facilities designated pursuant to s. 337.273. If transportation corridors are designated, the local government may adopt a transportation corridor management ordinance.
- Section 4. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (2) of section 163.3182, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (d) of subsection (3), paragraph (a) of subsection (4), and subsections (5) and (8) of that section are amended, to read:
  - 163.3182 Transportation concurrency backlogs.--
- (2) CREATION OF TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY BACKLOG AUTHORITIES.--
- (c) The Legislature finds and declares that there exists in many counties and municipalities areas having significant transportation deficiencies and inadequate transportation facilities; that many such insufficiencies and inadequacies severely limit or prohibit the satisfaction of transportation concurrency standards; that such transportation insufficiencies and inadequacies affect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of such counties and municipalities; that such transportation insufficiencies and inadequacies adversely affect economic development and growth of the tax base for the areas in which such insufficiencies and inadequacies exist; and that the elimination of transportation deficiencies and inadequacies and the satisfaction of transportation concurrency standards are paramount public purposes for the state and its counties and

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

## municipalities.

- (3) POWERS OF A TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY BACKLOG
  AUTHORITY.—Each transportation concurrency backlog authority has
  the powers necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of
  this section, including the following powers in addition to
  others granted in this section:
- debt obligations, such as, but not limited to, issuing debt obligations, such as, but not limited to, bonds, notes, certificates, and similar debt instruments; to apply for and accept advances, loans, grants, contributions, and any other forms of financial assistance from the Federal Government or the state, county, or any other public body or from any sources, public or private, for the purposes of this part; to give such security as may be required; to enter into and carry out contracts or agreements; and to include in any contracts for financial assistance with the Federal Government for or with respect to a transportation concurrency backlog project and related activities such conditions imposed pursuant to federal laws as the transportation concurrency backlog authority considers reasonable and appropriate and which are not inconsistent with the purposes of this section.
  - (4) TRANSPORTATION CONCURRENCY BACKLOG PLANS. --
- (a) Each transportation concurrency backlog authority shall adopt a transportation concurrency backlog plan as a part of the local government comprehensive plan within 6 months after the creation of the authority. The plan shall:
- 1. Identify all transportation facilities that have been designated as deficient and require the expenditure of moneys to upgrade, modify, or mitigate the deficiency.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

2. Include a priority listing of all transportation facilities that have been designated as deficient and do not satisfy concurrency requirements pursuant to s. 163.3180, and the applicable local government comprehensive plan.

- 3. Establish a schedule for financing and construction of transportation concurrency backlog projects that will eliminate transportation concurrency backlogs within the jurisdiction of the authority within 10 years after the transportation concurrency backlog plan adoption. The schedule shall be adopted as part of the local government comprehensive plan.

  Notwithstanding such schedule requirements, as long as the schedule provides for the elimination of all transportation concurrency backlogs within 10 years after the adoption of the concurrency backlog plan, the final maturity date of any debt incurred to finance or refinance the related projects may be no later than 40 years after the date such debt is incurred and the authority may continue operations and administer the trust fund established as provided in subsection (5) for as long as such debt remains outstanding.
- (5) ESTABLISHMENT OF LOCAL TRUST FUND.—The transportation concurrency backlog authority shall establish a local transportation concurrency backlog trust fund upon creation of the authority. Each local trust fund shall be administered by the transportation concurrency backlog authority within which a transportation concurrency backlog has been identified. Each local trust fund shall continue to be funded pursuant to this section for as long as the projects set forth in the related transportation concurrency backlog plan remain to be completed or until any debt incurred to finance or refinance the related

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

projects are no longer outstanding, whichever occurs later.

Beginning in the first fiscal year after the creation of the authority, each local trust fund shall be funded by the proceeds of an ad valorem tax increment collected within each transportation concurrency backlog area to be determined annually and shall be a minimum of 25 percent of the difference between the amounts set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b), except that if all of the affected taxing authorities agree pursuant to an interlocal agreement, a particular local trust fund may be funded by the proceeds of an ad valorem tax increment greater than 25 percent of the difference between the amounts set forth in paragraphs (a) and (b):

- (a) The amount of ad valorem tax levied each year by each taxing authority, exclusive of any amount from any debt service millage, on taxable real property contained within the jurisdiction of the transportation concurrency backlog authority and within the transportation backlog area; and
- (b) The amount of ad valorem taxes which would have been produced by the rate upon which the tax is levied each year by or for each taxing authority, exclusive of any debt service millage, upon the total of the assessed value of the taxable real property within the transportation concurrency backlog area as shown on the most recent assessment roll used in connection with the taxation of such property of each taxing authority prior to the effective date of the ordinance funding the trust fund.
- (8) DISSOLUTION. -- Upon completion of all transportation concurrency backlog projects and repayment or defeasance of all debt issued to finance or refinance such projects, a transportation concurrency backlog authority shall be dissolved,

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

and its assets and liabilities shall be transferred to the county or municipality within which the authority is located. All remaining assets of the authority must be used for implementation of transportation projects within the jurisdiction of the authority. The local government comprehensive plan shall be amended to remove the transportation concurrency backlog plan.

Section 5. Section 316.0741, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.0741 <u>High-occupancy-vehicle</u> High occupancy vehicle lanes.--

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "High-occupancy-vehicle High occupancy vehicle lane" or "HOV lane" means a lane of a public roadway designated for use by vehicles in which there is more than one occupant unless otherwise authorized by federal law.
  - (b) "Hybrid vehicle" means a motor vehicle:
- 1. That draws propulsion energy from onboard sources of stored energy which are both an internal combustion or heat engine using combustible fuel and a rechargeable energy-storage system; and
- 2. That, in the case of a passenger automobile or light truck, has received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 7401 et seq., and meets or exceeds the equivalent qualifying California standards for a low-emission vehicle.
- (2) The number of persons that must be in a vehicle to qualify for legal use of the HOV lane and the hours during which the lane will serve as an HOV lane, if it is not designated as such on a full-time basis, must also be indicated on a traffic

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

control device.

(3) Except as provided in subsection (4), a vehicle may not be driven in an HOV lane if the vehicle is occupied by fewer than the number of occupants indicated by a traffic control device. A driver who violates this section shall be cited for a moving violation, punishable as provided in chapter 318.

- (4) (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, an inherently low-emission vehicle (ILEV) that is certified and labeled in accordance with federal regulations may be driven in an HOV lane at any time, regardless of its occupancy. In addition, upon the state's receipt of written notice from the proper federal regulatory agency authorizing such use, a vehicle defined as a hybrid vehicle under this section may be driven in an HOV lane at any time, regardless of its occupancy.
- (b) All eligible hybrid and all eligible other low-emission and energy-efficient vehicles driven in an HOV lane must comply with the minimum fuel economy standards in 23 U.S.C. s. 166(f)(3)(B).
- (c) Upon issuance of the applicable Environmental Protection Agency final rule pursuant to 23 U.S.C. s. 166(e), relating to the eligibility of hybrid and other low-emission and energy-efficient vehicles for operation in an HOV lane regardless of occupancy, the Department of Transportation shall review the rule and recommend to the Legislature any statutory changes necessary for compliance with the federal rule. The department shall provide its recommendations no later than 30 days following issuance of the final rule.
- (5) The department shall issue a decal and registration certificate, to be renewed annually, reflecting the HOV lane

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

designation on such vehicles meeting the criteria in subsection (4) authorizing driving in an HOV lane at any time such use. The department may charge a fee for a decal, not to exceed the costs of designing, producing, and distributing each decal, or \$5, whichever is less. The proceeds from sale of the decals shall be deposited in the Highway Safety Operating Trust Fund. The department may, for reasons of operation and management of HOV facilities, limit or discontinue issuance of decals for the use of HOV facilities by hybrid and low-emission and energy-efficient vehicles, regardless of occupancy, if it has been determined by the Department of Transportation that the facilities are degraded as defined by 23 U.S.C. s. 166(d)(2).

- (6) Vehicles having decals by virtue of compliance with the minimum fuel economy standards under 23 U.S.C. s. 166(f)(3)(B), and which are registered for use in high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes in accordance with Department of Transportation rule, shall be allowed to use any HOV lanes redesignated as high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes without payment of a toll.
- (5) As used in this section, the term "hybrid vehicle" means a motor vehicle:
- (a) That draws propulsion energy from onboard sources of stored energy which are both:
- 1. An internal combustion or heat engine using combustible fuel; and
  - 2. A rechargeable energy storage system; and
- 664 (b) That, in the case of a passenger automobile or light
  665 truck:
  - 1. Has received a certificate of conformity under the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 7401 et seq.; and

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

- 2. Meets or exceeds the equivalent qualifying California standards for a low-emission vehicle.
- $\underline{(7)}$  (6) The department may adopt rules necessary to administer this section.
- Section 6. Subsection (4) of section 316.193, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 316.193 Driving under the influence; penalties.--
- (4) Any person who is convicted of a violation of subsection (1) and who has a blood-alcohol level or breathalcohol level of  $0.15 \ 0.20$  or higher, or any person who is convicted of a violation of subsection (1) and who at the time of the offense was accompanied in the vehicle by a person under the age of 18 years, shall be punished:
  - (a) By a fine of:
- 1. Not less than \$500 or more than \$1,000 for a first conviction.
- 2. Not less than \$1,000 or more than \$2,000 for a second conviction.
- 3. Not less than \$2,000 for a third or subsequent conviction.
  - (b) By imprisonment for:
  - 1. Not more than 9 months for a first conviction.
  - 2. Not more than 12 months for a second conviction.

For the purposes of this subsection, only the instant offense is required to be a violation of subsection (1) by a person who has a blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of  $0.15 \, 0.20$  or higher.

(c) In addition to the penalties in paragraphs (a) and (b),

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

the court shall order the mandatory placement, at the convicted person's sole expense, of an ignition interlock device approved by the department in accordance with s. 316.1938 upon all vehicles that are individually or jointly leased or owned and routinely operated by the convicted person for not less than up to 6 continuous months for the first offense and for not less than at least 2 continuous years for a second offense, when the convicted person qualifies for a permanent or restricted license. The installation of such device may not occur before July 1, 2003.

Section 7. Subsections (1), (6), and (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.--

- (1) (a) All owners and drivers of commercial motor vehicles that are operated on the public highways of this state while engaged in interstate commerce are subject to the rules and regulations contained in 49 C.F.R. parts 382, 385, and 390-397.
- (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, 2007 2005.
- (c) Except as provided in s. 316.215(5), and except as provided in s. 316.228 for rear overhang lighting and flagging requirements for intrastate operations, the requirements of this section supersede all other safety requirements of this chapter

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

for commercial motor vehicles.

- (6) The state Department of Transportation shall perform the duties that are assigned to the <u>Field Administrator</u>, <u>Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration</u> Regional Federal Highway Administrator under the federal rules, and an agent of that department, as described in s. 316.545(9), may enforce those rules.
- For the purpose of enforcing this section, any law enforcement officer 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. 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 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 Standard 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 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

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

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.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 316.613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.613 Child restraint requirements.--

- (2) As used in this section, the term "motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in s. 316.003 which that is operated on the roadways, streets, and highways of the state. The term does not include:
  - (a) A school bus as defined in s. 316.003(45).
- (b) A bus used for the transportation of persons for compensation, other than a bus regularly used to transport children to or from school, as defined in s. 316.615(1) (b), or in conjunction with school activities.
  - (c) A farm tractor or implement of husbandry.
- (d) A truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 of net weight of more than 5,000 pounds.
  - (e) A motorcycle, moped, or bicycle.

Section 9. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 316.614, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.614 Safety belt usage.--

- (3) As used in this section:
- (a) "Motor vehicle" means a motor vehicle as defined in s. 316.003 which that is operated on the roadways, streets, and

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

highways of this state. The term does not include:

1. A school bus.

- 2. A bus used for the transportation of persons for compensation.
  - 3. A farm tractor or implement of husbandry.
- 4. A truck having a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 of a net weight of more than 5,000 pounds.
  - 5. A motorcycle, moped, or bicycle.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 316.656, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

316.656 Mandatory adjudication; prohibition against accepting plea to lesser included offense.--

(2) (a) No trial judge may accept a plea of guilty to a lesser offense from a person charged under the provisions of this act who has been given a breath or blood test to determine blood or breath alcohol content, the results of which show a blood or breath alcohol content by weight of 0.15 0.20 percent or more.

Section 11. Section 322.64, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.64 Holder of commercial driver's license; <u>persons</u> operating a commercial motor vehicle; driving with unlawful blood-alcohol level; refusal to submit to breath, urine, or blood test.--
- (1) (a) A law enforcement officer or correctional officer shall, on behalf of the department, disqualify from operating any commercial motor vehicle a person who while operating or in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle is arrested for a violation of s. 316.193, relating to unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level, or a person who has refused to

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

submit to a breath, urine, or blood test authorized by s. 322.63 arising out of the operation or actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle. A law enforcement officer or correctional officer shall, on behalf of the department, disqualify the holder of a commercial driver's license from operating any commercial motor vehicle if the licenseholder, while operating or in actual physical control of a motor vehicle, is arrested for a violation of s. 316.193, relating to unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level, or refused to submit to a breath, urine, or blood test authorized by s. 322.63. Upon disqualification of the person, the officer shall take the person's driver's license and issue the person a 10-day temporary permit for the operation of noncommercial vehicles only if the person is otherwise eligible for the driving privilege and shall issue the person a notice of disqualification. If the person has been given a blood, breath, or urine test, the results of which are not available to the officer at the time of the arrest, the agency employing the officer shall transmit such results to the department within 5 days after receipt of the results. If the department then determines that the person was arrested for a violation of s. 316.193 and that the person had a blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher, the department shall disqualify the person from operating a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to subsection (3).

- (b) The disqualification under paragraph (a) shall be pursuant to, and the notice of disqualification shall inform the driver of, the following:
- 1.a. The driver refused to submit to a lawful breath, blood, or urine test and he or she is disqualified from operating

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

a commercial motor vehicle for a period of 1 year, for a first refusal, or permanently, if he or she has previously been disqualified as a result of a refusal to submit to such a test; or

- b. The driver was driving or in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, or any motor vehicle if the driver holds a commercial driver's license, had an unlawful bloodalcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher, and his or her driving privilege shall be disqualified for a period of 1 year for a first offense or permanently if his or her driving privilege has been previously disqualified under this section.

  violated s. 316.193 by driving with an unlawful blood-alcohol level and he or she is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for a period of 6 months for a first offense or for a period of 1 year if he or she has previously been disqualified, or his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended, for a violation of s. 316.193.
- 2. The disqualification period for operating commercial vehicles shall commence on the date of  $\frac{1}{2}$  arrest or issuance of  $\frac{1}{2}$  notice of disqualification, whichever is later.
- 3. The driver may request a formal or informal review of the disqualification by the department within 10 days after the date of  $\frac{1}{2}$  are issuance of  $\frac{1}{2}$  notice of disqualification.
- 4. The temporary permit issued at the time of  $\frac{1}{2}$  arrest or disqualification  $\frac{1}{2}$  expires will expire at midnight of the 10th day following the date of disqualification.
- 5. The driver may submit to the department any materials relevant to the <u>disqualification</u> arrest.

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

Except as provided in paragraph (1)(a), the law enforcement officer shall forward to the department, within 5 days after the date of the arrest or the issuance of the notice of disqualification, whichever is later, a copy of the notice of disqualification, the driver's license of the person disqualified arrested, and a report of the arrest, including, if applicable, an affidavit stating the officer's grounds for belief that the person disqualified arrested was operating or in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, or holds a commercial driver's license, and had an unlawful blood-alcohol or breathalcohol level in violation of s. 316.193; the results of any breath or blood or urine test or an affidavit stating that a breath, blood, or urine test was requested by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer and that the person arrested refused to submit; a copy of the notice of disqualification citation issued to the person arrested; and the officer's description of the person's field sobriety test, if any. The failure of the officer to submit materials within the 5-day period specified in this subsection or subsection (1) does shall not affect the department's ability to consider any evidence submitted at or prior to the hearing. The officer may also submit a copy of a videotape of the field sobriety test or the attempt to administer such test and a copy of the crash report, if any.

(3) If the department determines that the person arrested should be disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle pursuant to this section and if the notice of disqualification has not already been served upon the person by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer as provided in subsection (1), the department shall issue a notice of disqualification and,

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

unless the notice is mailed pursuant to s. 322.251, a temporary permit which expires 10 days after the date of issuance if the driver is otherwise eligible.

- (4) If the person <u>disqualified</u> arrested requests an informal review pursuant to subparagraph (1) (b)3., the department shall conduct the informal review by a hearing officer employed by the department. Such informal review hearing shall consist solely of an examination by the department of the materials submitted by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer and by the person <u>disqualified</u> arrested, and the presence of an officer or witness is not required.
- (5) After completion of the informal review, notice of the department's decision sustaining, amending, or invalidating the disqualification must be provided to the person. Such notice must be mailed to the person at the last known address shown on the department's records, and to the address provided in the law enforcement officer's report if such address differs from the address of record, within 21 days after the expiration of the temporary permit issued pursuant to subsection (1) or subsection (3).
- (6) (a) If the person <u>disqualified</u> arrested requests a formal review, the department must schedule a hearing to be held within 30 days after such request is received by the department and must notify the person of the date, time, and place of the hearing.
- (b) Such formal review hearing shall be held before a hearing officer employed by the department, and the hearing officer shall be authorized to administer oaths, examine witnesses and take testimony, receive relevant evidence, issue

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

subpoenas for the officers and witnesses identified in documents as provided in subsection (2), regulate the course and conduct of the hearing, and make a ruling on the disqualification. The department and the person disqualified arrested may subpoena witnesses, and the party requesting the presence of a witness shall be responsible for the payment of any witness fees. If the person who requests a formal review hearing fails to appear and the hearing officer finds such failure to be without just cause, the right to a formal hearing is waived and the department shall conduct an informal review of the disqualification under subsection (4).

- (c) A party may seek enforcement of a subpoena under paragraph (b) by filing a petition for enforcement in the circuit court of the judicial circuit in which the person failing to comply with the subpoena resides. A failure to comply with an order of the court shall result in a finding of contempt of court. However, a person shall not be in contempt while a subpoena is being challenged.
- (d) The department must, within 7 days after a formal review hearing, send notice to the person of the hearing officer's decision as to whether sufficient cause exists to sustain, amend, or invalidate the disqualification.
- (7) In a formal review hearing under subsection (6) or an informal review hearing under subsection (4), the hearing officer shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence whether sufficient cause exists to sustain, amend, or invalidate the disqualification. The scope of the review shall be limited to the following issues:
  - (a) If the person was disqualified from operating a

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

commercial motor vehicle for driving with an unlawful bloodalcohol level in violation of s. 316.193:

- 1. Whether the arresting law enforcement officer had probable cause to believe that the person was driving or in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, or any motor vehicle if the driver holds a commercial driver's license, in this state while he or she had any alcohol, chemical substances, or controlled substances in his or her body.
- 2. Whether the person was placed under lawful arrest for a violation of s. 316.193.
- 2.3. Whether the person had an unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher as provided in s. 316.193.
- (b) If the person was disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for refusal to submit to a breath, blood, or urine test:
- 1. Whether the law enforcement officer had probable cause to believe that the person was driving or in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, or any motor vehicle if the driver holds a commercial driver's license, in this state while he or she had any alcohol, chemical substances, or controlled substances in his or her body.
- 2. Whether the person refused to submit to the test after being requested to do so by a law enforcement officer or correctional officer.
- 3. Whether the person was told that if he or she refused to submit to such test he or she would be disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for a period of 1 year or, in the case of a second refusal, permanently.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(8) Based on the determination of the hearing officer pursuant to subsection (7) for both informal hearings under subsection (4) and formal hearings under subsection (6), the department shall:

- (a) Sustain the disqualification for a period of 1 year for a first refusal, or permanently if such person has been previously disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle as a result of a refusal to submit to such tests. The disqualification period commences on the date of the arrest or issuance of the notice of disqualification, whichever is later.
  - (b) Sustain the disqualification:
- 1. For a period of 1 year if the person was driving or in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, or any motor vehicle if the driver holds a commercial driver's license, and had an unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher; or 6 months for a violation of s. 316.193 or for a period of 1 year
- 2. Permanently if the person has been previously disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle or his or her driving privilege has been previously suspended for driving or being in actual physical control of a commercial motor vehicle, or any motor vehicle if the driver holds a commercial driver's license, and had an unlawful blood-alcohol level or breath-alcohol level of 0.08 or higher as a result of a violation of s. 316.193.

The disqualification period commences on the date of the arrest or issuance of the notice of disqualification, whichever is later.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(9) A request for a formal review hearing or an informal review hearing shall not stay the disqualification. If the department fails to schedule the formal review hearing to be held within 30 days after receipt of the request therefor, the department shall invalidate the disqualification. If the scheduled hearing is continued at the department's initiative, the department shall issue a temporary driving permit <a href="limited to noncommercial vehicles">limited to noncommercial vehicles</a> which <a href="lists shall be">lists shall be</a> valid until the hearing is conducted if the person is otherwise eligible for the driving privilege. Such permit shall not be issued to a person who sought and obtained a continuance of the hearing. The permit issued under this subsection shall authorize driving for business <a href="purposes">purposes</a> or employment use only.

- (10) A person who is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle under subsection (1) or subsection (3) is eligible for issuance of a license for business or employment purposes only under s. 322.271 if the person is otherwise eligible for the driving privilege. However, such business or employment purposes license shall not authorize the driver to operate a commercial motor vehicle.
- (11) The formal review hearing may be conducted upon a review of the reports of a law enforcement officer or a correctional officer, including documents relating to the administration of a breath test or blood test or the refusal to take either test. However, as provided in subsection (6), the driver may subpoen the officer or any person who administered or analyzed a breath or blood test.
- (12) The formal review hearing and the informal review hearing are exempt from the provisions of chapter 120. The

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

department is authorized to adopt rules for the conduct of reviews under this section.

- (13) A person may appeal any decision of the department sustaining the disqualification from operating a commercial motor vehicle by a petition for writ of certiorari to the circuit court in the county wherein such person resides or wherein a formal or informal review was conducted pursuant to s. 322.31. However, an appeal shall not stay the disqualification. This subsection shall not be construed to provide for a de novo appeal.
- (14) The decision of the department under this section shall not be considered in any trial for a violation of s. 316.193, s. 322.61, or s. 322.62, nor shall any written statement submitted by a person in his or her request for departmental review under this section be admissible into evidence against him or her in any such trial. The disposition of any related criminal proceedings shall not affect a disqualification imposed pursuant to this section.
- (15) This section does not preclude the suspension of the driving privilege pursuant to s. 322.2615. The driving privilege of a person who has been disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle also may be suspended for a violation of s. 316.193.
- Section 12. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 336.41, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) and (5), respectively, and a new subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:
- 336.41 Counties; employing labor and providing road equipment; accounting; when competitive bidding required.--
  - (3) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a county,

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

municipality, or special district may not own or operate an asphalt plant or a portable or stationary concrete batch plant that has an independent mixer; however, this prohibition does not apply to any county that owns or is under contract to purchase an asphalt plant as of April 15, 2008, and that furnishes its plant-generated asphalt solely for use by local governments or companies under contract with local governments for projects within the boundaries of the county. Sale of plant-generated asphalt to private entities or local governments outside the boundaries of the county is prohibited.

Section 13. Subsections (8) through (15) of section 337.11, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (9) through (16), respectively, present subsection (7) is renumbered as subsection (8) and amended, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section, 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) If the department determines that it is in the best interest of the public, the department may pay a stipend to unsuccessful firms who have submitted responsive proposals for construction or maintenance contracts. The decision and amount of a stipend will be based upon department analysis of the estimated proposal development costs and the anticipated degree of competition during the procurement process. Stipends shall be used to encourage competition and compensate unsuccessful firms for a portion of their proposal development costs. The department shall retain the right to use ideas from unsuccessful firms that

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

## accept a stipend.

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(8) <del>(7)</del> (a) If the head of the department determines that it is in the best interests of the public, the department may combine the 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 designbuild contract. The department's goal shall be to procure up to 25 percent of the construction contracts which add capacity in the 5-year adopted work program as design-build contracts by July 1, 2013. Design-build contracts may be advertised and awarded notwithstanding the requirements of paragraph (3)(c). However, construction activities may not begin on any portion of such projects for which the department has not yet obtained title to the necessary rights-of-way and easements for the construction of that portion of the project has vested in the state or a local governmental entity and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have been executed. Title to rights-of-way shall be deemed to have vested in the state when the title has been dedicated to the public or acquired by prescription.

- (b) The department shall adopt by rule procedures for administering design-build contracts. Such procedures shall include, but not be limited to:
  - 1. Prequalification requirements.
  - 2. Public announcement procedures.
  - 3. Scope of service requirements.
  - 4. Letters of interest requirements.
  - 5. Short-listing criteria and procedures.
    - 6. Bid proposal requirements.
    - 7. Technical review committee.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

8. Selection and award processes.

## 9. Stipend requirements.

- (c) The department must receive at least three letters of interest in order to proceed with a request for proposals. The department shall request proposals from no fewer than three of the design-build firms submitting letters of interest. If a design-build firm withdraws from consideration after the department requests proposals, the department may continue if at least two proposals are received.
- Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 337.18, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 337.18 Surety bonds for construction or maintenance contracts; requirement with respect to contract award; bond requirements; defaults; damage assessments.--

(1)

(b) Prior to beginning any work under the contract, the contractor shall maintain a copy of the payment and performance bond required under this section at its principal place of business, and at the jobsite office if one is established, and the contractor shall provide a copy of the payment and performance bond within 5 days after receipt of any written request therefore. A copy of the payment and performance bond required under this section may also be obtained directly from the department via a request made pursuant to chapter 119. Upon execution of the contract, and prior to beginning any work under the contract, the contractor shall record in the public records of the county where the improvement is located the payment and performance bond required under this section. A claimant shall have a right of action against the contractor and surety for the

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

amount due him or her, including unpaid finance charges due under the claimant's contract. Such action shall not involve the department in any expense.

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- Section 15. Subsections (1), (2), and (7) of section 337.185, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 337.185 State Arbitration Board.--
  - To facilitate the prompt settlement of claims for additional compensation arising out of construction and maintenance contracts between the department and the various contractors with whom it transacts business, the Legislature does hereby establish the State Arbitration Board, referred to in this section as the "board." For the purpose of this section, "claim" means shall mean the aggregate of all outstanding claims by a party arising out of a construction or maintenance contract. Every contractual claim in an amount up to \$250,000 per contract or, at the claimant's option, up to \$500,000 per contract or, upon agreement of the parties, up to \$1 million per contract which that cannot be resolved by negotiation between the department and the contractor shall be arbitrated by the board after acceptance of the project by the department. As an exception, either party to the dispute may request that the claim be submitted to binding private arbitration. A court of law may not consider the settlement of such a claim until the process established by this section has been exhausted.
  - (2) The board shall be composed of three members. One member shall be appointed by the head of the department, and one member shall be elected by those construction or maintenance companies who are under contract with the department. The third

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

member shall be chosen by agreement of the other two members. Whenever the third member has a conflict of interest regarding affiliation with one of the parties, the other two members shall select an alternate member for that hearing. The head of the department may select an alternative or substitute to serve as the department member for any hearing or term. Each member shall serve a 2-year term. The board shall elect a chair, each term, who shall be the administrator of the board and custodian of its records.

(7) The members of the board may receive compensation for the performance of their duties hereunder, from administrative fees received by the board, except that no employee of the department may receive compensation from the board. The compensation amount shall be determined by the board, but shall not exceed \$125 per hour, up to a maximum of \$1,000 per day for each member authorized to receive compensation. Nothing in this section does not shall prevent the member elected by construction or maintenance companies from being an employee of an association affiliated with the industry, even if the sole responsibility of that member is service on the board. Travel expenses for the industry member may be paid by an industry association, if necessary. The board may allocate funds annually for clerical and other administrative services.

Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 337.403, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

337.403 Relocation of utility; expenses.--

(1) Any utility heretofore or hereafter placed upon, under, over, or along any public road or publicly owned rail corridor which that is found by the authority to be unreasonably

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

interfering in any way with the convenient, safe, or continuous use, or the maintenance, improvement, extension, or expansion, of such public road or publicly owned rail corridor shall, upon 30 days' written notice to the utility or its agent by the authority, be removed or relocated by such utility at its own expense except as provided in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c), (d), and (e).

- (a) If the relocation of utility facilities, as referred to in s. 111 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1956, Pub. L. No. 627 of the 84th Congress, is necessitated by the construction of a project on the federal-aid interstate system, including extensions thereof within urban areas, and the cost of such project is eligible and approved for reimbursement by the Federal Government to the extent of 90 percent or more under the Federal Aid Highway Act, or any amendment thereof, then in that event the utility owning or operating such facilities shall relocate such facilities upon order of the department, and the state shall pay the entire expense properly attributable to such relocation after deducting therefrom any increase in the value of the new facility and any salvage value derived from the old facility.
- (b) When a joint agreement between the department and the utility is executed for utility improvement, relocation, or removal work to be accomplished as part of a contract for construction of a transportation facility, the department may participate in those utility improvement, relocation, or removal costs that exceed the department's official estimate of the cost of such work by more than 10 percent. The amount of such participation shall be limited to the difference between the official estimate of all the work in the joint agreement plus 10

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

percent and the amount awarded for this work in the construction contract for such work. The department may not participate in any utility improvement, relocation, or removal costs that occur as a result of changes or additions during the course of the contract.

- (c) When an agreement between the department and utility is executed for utility improvement, relocation, or removal work to be accomplished in advance of a contract for construction of a transportation facility, the department may participate in the cost of clearing and grubbing necessary to perform such work.
- initially installed exclusively to serve the department, its tenants, or both the department and its tenants, the department shall bear the costs of removal or relocation of that utility facility. However, the department is not responsible for bearing the cost of removal or relocation of any subsequent additions to the utility facility for the purpose of serving others.
- (e) If pursuant to an agreement between a utility and the authority entered into after July 1, 2008, the utility conveys, subordinates, or relinquishes a compensable property right to the authority for the purpose of accommodating the acquisition or use of the right-of-way by the authority without the agreement expressly addressing future responsibility for cost of removal or relocation of the utility, the authority shall bear the cost of such removal or relocation. Nothing herein is intended to impair or restrict, or be used to interpret, the terms of any agreement entered into prior to July 1, 2008.
- Section 17. Subsection (6) is added to section 338.01, Florida Statutes, to read:
  - 338.01 Authority to establish and regulate limited access

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

1277 facilities.--

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, all new limited access facilities and existing transportation facilities on which new or replacement electronic toll collection systems are installed shall be interoperable with the department's electronic toll collection system.

Section 18. Present subsections (7) and (8) of section 338.165, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (8) and (9), respectively, and a new subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

- 338.165 Continuation of tolls.--
- (7) This section does not apply to high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes.

Section 19. Section 338.166, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 338.166 High-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes.--
- (1) Under s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution, the department may request the Division of Bond Finance to issue bonds secured by toll revenues collected on high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes located on Interstate 95 in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties.
- (2) The department may continue to collect the toll on the high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes after the discharge of any bond indebtedness related to such project. All tolls so collected shall first be used to pay the annual cost of the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes project or associated transportation system.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(3) Any remaining toll revenue from the high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes shall be used by the department for the construction, maintenance, or improvement of any road on the State Highway System.

- (4) The department is authorized to implement variable rate tolls on high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes.
- (5) Except for high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes, tolls may not be charged for use of an interstate highway where tolls were not charged as of July 1, 1997.
- (6) This section does not apply to the turnpike system as defined under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law.

Section 20. Paragraphs (d) and (e) are added to subsection (1) of section 338.2216, Florida Statutes, to read:

338.2216 Florida Turnpike Enterprise; powers and authority.--

(1)

- (d) The Florida Turnpike Enterprise is directed to pursue and implement new technologies and processes in its operations and collection of tolls and the collection of other amounts associated with road and infrastructure usage. Such technologies and processes shall include, without limitation, video billing and variable pricing.
- (e)1. The Florida Turnpike Enterprise may not contract with any vendor for the retail sale of fuel along the Florida Turnpike if such contract is negotiated or bid together with any other contract, including, but not limited to, the retail sale of food, maintenance services, or construction, except that a contract for the retail sale of fuel along the Florida Turnpike shall be bid and contracted with the retail sale of food at any convenience

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

store attached to the fuel station.

2. All contracts related to service plazas, including, but not limited to, the sale of fuel, the retail sale of food, maintenance services, or construction, awarded by the Florida Turnpike Enterprise shall be procured through individual competitive solicitations and awarded to the most cost-effective responder. This subparagraph does not prohibit the award of more than one individual contract to a single vendor who submits the most cost-effective response.

Section 21. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 338.223, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.223 Proposed turnpike projects.--

(1)

(b) Any proposed turnpike project or improvement shall be developed in accordance with the Florida Transportation Plan and the work program pursuant to s. 339.135. Turnpike projects that add capacity, alter access, affect feeder roads, or affect the operation of the local transportation system shall be included in the transportation improvement plan of the affected metropolitan planning organization. If such turnpike project does not fall within the jurisdiction of a metropolitan planning organization, the department shall notify the affected county and provide for public hearings in accordance with  $\underline{s.\ 339.155(5)(c)}$   $\underline{s.\ 339.155(6)(c)}$ .

Section 22. Section 338.231, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

338.231 Turnpike tolls, fixing; pledge of tolls and other revenues.—The department shall at all times fix, adjust, charge, and collect such tolls for the use of the turnpike system as are

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

required in order to provide a fund sufficient with other revenues of the turnpike system to pay the cost of maintaining, improving, repairing, and operating such turnpike system; to pay the principal of and interest on all bonds issued to finance or refinance any portion of the turnpike system as the same become due and payable; and to create reserves for all such purposes.

(1) In the process of effectuating toll rate increases over the period 1988 through 1992, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible, equalize the toll structure, within each vehicle classification, so that the per mile toll rate will be approximately the same throughout the turnpike system. New turnpike projects may have toll rates higher than the uniform system rate where such higher toll rates are necessary to qualify the project in accordance with the financial criteria in the turnpike law. Such higher rates may be reduced to the uniform system rate when the project is generating sufficient revenues to pay the full amount of debt service and operating and maintenance costs at the uniform system rate. If, after 15 years of opening to traffic, the annual revenue of a turnpike project does not meet or exceed the annual debt service requirements and operating and maintenance costs attributable to such project, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible, establish a toll rate for the project which is higher than the uniform system rate as necessary to meet such annual debt service requirements and operating and maintenance costs. The department may, to the extent feasible, establish a temporary toll rate at less than the uniform system rate for the purpose of building patronage for the ultimate benefit of the turnpike system. In no case shall the temporary rate be established for more than 1 year. The

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

requirements of this subsection shall not apply when the application of such requirements would violate any covenant established in a resolution or trust indenture relating to the issuance of turnpike bonds.

(1) (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the department may defer the scheduled July 1, 1993, toll rate increase on the Homestead Extension of the Florida Turnpike until July 1, 1995. The department may also advance funds to the Turnpike General Reserve Trust Fund to replace estimated lost revenues resulting from this deferral. The amount advanced must be repaid within 12 years from the date of advance; however, the repayment is subordinate to all other debt financing of the turnpike system outstanding at the time repayment is due.

(2)(3) The department shall publish a proposed change in the toll rate for the use of an existing toll facility, in the manner provided for in s. 120.54, which will provide for public notice and the opportunity for a public hearing before the adoption of the proposed rate change. When the department is evaluating a proposed turnpike toll project under s. 338.223 and has determined that there is a high probability that the project will pass the test of economic feasibility predicated on proposed toll rates, the toll rate that is proposed to be charged after the project is constructed must be adopted during the planning and project development phase of the project, in the manner provided for in s. 120.54, including public notice and the opportunity for a public hearing. For such a new project, the toll rate becomes effective upon the opening of the project to traffic.

(3) (a)  $\frac{4}{4}$  For the period July 1, 1998, through June 30,

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

2017, the department shall, to the maximum extent feasible, program sufficient funds in the tentative work program such that the percentage of turnpike toll and bond financed commitments in Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as compared to total turnpike toll and bond financed commitments shall be at least 90 percent of the share of net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system in Dade County, Broward County, and Palm Beach County as compared to total net toll collections attributable to users of the turnpike system. The requirements of this subsection do not apply when the application of such requirements would violate any covenant established in a resolution or trust indenture relating to the issuance of turnpike bonds. The department may establish at any time for economic considerations lower temporary toll rates for a new or existing toll facility for a period not to exceed 1 year, after which period the toll rates adopted under s. 120.54 shall become effective.

(b) The department shall also fix, adjust, charge, and collect such amounts needed to cover the costs of administering the different toll collection and payment methods and types of accounts being offered and used in the manner provided for in s. 120.54, which provides for public notice and the opportunity for a public hearing before adoption. Such amounts may stand alone, be incorporated into a toll rate structure, or be a combination thereof.

 $\underline{(4)}$  (5) When bonds are outstanding which have been issued to finance or refinance any turnpike project, the tolls and all other revenues derived from the turnpike system and pledged to such bonds shall be set aside as may be provided in the

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or the trust agreement securing the same. The tolls or other revenues or other moneys so pledged and thereafter received by the department are immediately subject to the lien of such pledge without any physical delivery thereof or further act. The lien of any such pledge is valid and binding as against all parties having claims of any kind in tort or contract or otherwise against the department irrespective of whether such parties have notice thereof. Neither the resolution nor any trust agreement by which a pledge is created need be filed or recorded except in the records of the department.

(5) (6) In each fiscal year while any of the bonds of the Broward County Expressway Authority series 1984 and series 1986-A remain outstanding, the department is authorized to pledge revenues from the turnpike system to the payment of principal and interest of such series of bonds and the operation and maintenance expenses of the Sawgrass Expressway, to the extent gross toll revenues of the Sawgrass Expressway are insufficient to make such payments. The terms of an agreement relative to the pledge of turnpike system revenue will be negotiated with the parties of the 1984 and 1986 Broward County Expressway Authority lease-purchase agreements, and subject to the covenants of those agreements. The agreement shall establish that the Sawgrass Expressway shall be subject to the planning, management, and operating control of the department limited only by the terms of the lease-purchase agreements. The department shall provide for the payment of operation and maintenance expenses of the Sawgrass Expressway until such agreement is in effect. This pledge of turnpike system revenues shall be subordinate to the debt service

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

requirements of any future issue of turnpike bonds, the payment of turnpike system operation and maintenance expenses, and subject to provisions of any subsequent resolution or trust indenture relating to the issuance of such turnpike bonds.

(6) (7) The use and disposition of revenues pledged to bonds are subject to the provisions of ss. 338.22-338.241 and such regulations as the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or such trust agreement may provide.

Section 23. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 339.12, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, to read:

339.12 Aid and contributions by governmental entities for department projects; federal aid.--

(4)

(c) The department may enter into agreements under this subsection for a project or project phase not included in the adopted work program. As used in this paragraph, the term "project phase" means acquisition of rights-of-way, construction, construction inspection, and related support phases. The project or project phase must be a high priority of the governmental entity. Reimbursement for a project or project phase must be made from funds appropriated by the Legislature pursuant to s. 339.135(5). All other provisions of this subsection apply to agreements entered into under this paragraph. The total amount of project agreements for projects or project phases not included in the adopted work program authorized by this paragraph may not at any time exceed \$100 million. However, notwithstanding such \$100 million limit and any similar limit in s. 334.30, project advances for any inland county with a population greater than

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

500,000 dedicating amounts equal to \$500 million or more of its Local Government Infrastructure Surtax pursuant to s. 212.055(2) for improvements to the State Highway System which are included in the local metropolitan planning organization's or the department's long-range transportation plans shall be excluded from the calculation of the statewide limit of project advances.

The department may enter into agreements under this subsection with any county having a population of 150,000 or fewer as determined by the most recent official estimate pursuant to s. 186.901 for a project or project phase not included in the adopted work program. As used in this paragraph, the term "project phase" means acquisition of rights-of-way, construction, construction inspection, and related support phases. The project or project phase must be a high priority of the governmental entity. Reimbursement for a project or project phase must be made from funds appropriated by the Legislature pursuant to s. 339.135(5). All other provisions of this subsection apply to agreements entered into under this paragraph. The total amount of project agreements for projects or project phases not included in the adopted work program authorized by this paragraph may not at any time exceed \$200 million. The project must be included in the local government's adopted comprehensive plan. The department is authorized to enter into long-term repayment agreements of up to 30 years.

Section 24. Paragraph (d) of subsection (7) of section 339.135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(7) AMENDMENT OF THE ADOPTED WORK PROGRAM. --

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(d)1. Whenever the department proposes any amendment to the adopted work program, as defined in subparagraph (c)1. or subparagraph (c) 3., which deletes or defers a construction phase on a capacity project, it shall notify <a href="each county affected by">each county affected by</a> the amendment and each municipality within the county. The notification shall be issued in writing to the chief elected official of each affected county, each municipality within the county, and the chair of each affected metropolitan planning organization. Each affected county and each municipality in the county, is encouraged to coordinate with each other to determine how the amendment effects local concurrency management and regional transportation planning efforts. Each affected county, and each municipality within the county, shall have 14 days to provide written comments to the department regarding how the amendment will effect its respective concurrency management systems, including whether any development permits were issued contingent upon the capacity improvement, if applicable. After receipt of written comments from the affected local governments, the department shall include any written comments submitted by such local governments in its preparation of the proposed amendment.

2. Following the 14-day comment period in subparagraph 1., if applicable, whenever the department proposes any amendment to the adopted work program, which amendment is defined in subparagraph (c)1., subparagraph (c)2., subparagraph (c)3., or subparagraph (c)4., it shall submit the proposed amendment to the Governor for approval and shall immediately notify the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees, the chairs of the legislative transportation committees, and each member of the

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

Legislature who represents a district affected by the proposed amendment. It shall also notify, each metropolitan planning organization affected by the proposed amendment, and each unit of local government affected by the proposed amendment, unless it provided to each the notification required by subparagraph 1. Such proposed amendment shall provide a complete justification of the need for the proposed amendment.

- 3.2. The Governor shall not approve a proposed amendment until 14 days following the notification required in subparagraph 2. 1.
- 4.3. If either of the chairs of the legislative appropriations committees or the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives objects in writing to a proposed amendment within 14 days following notification and specifies the reasons for such objection, the Governor shall disapprove the proposed amendment.

Section 25. Section 339.155, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

339.155 Transportation planning.--

(1) THE FLORIDA TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—The department shall develop and annually update a statewide transportation plan, to be known as the Florida Transportation Plan. The plan shall be designed so as to be easily read and understood by the general public. The purpose of the Florida Transportation Plan is to establish and define the state's long—range transportation goals and objectives to be accomplished over a period of at least 20 years within the context of the State Comprehensive Plan, and any other statutory mandates and authorizations and based upon the prevailing principles of: preserving the existing transportation

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

infrastructure; enhancing Florida's economic competitiveness; and improving travel choices to ensure mobility. The Florida

Transportation Plan shall consider the needs of the entire state transportation system and examine the use of all modes of transportation to effectively and efficiently meet such needs.

- (2) SCOPE OF PLANNING PROCESS.—The department shall carry out a transportation planning process in conformance with s. 334.046(1). which provides for consideration of projects and strategies that will:
- (a) Support the economic vitality of the United States, Florida, and the metropolitan areas, especially by enabling global competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency;
- (b) Increase the safety and security of the transportation system for motorized and nonmotorized users;
- (c) Increase the accessibility and mobility options available to people and for freight;
- (d) Protect and enhance the environment, promote energy conservation, and improve quality of life;
- (e) Enhance the integration and connectivity of the transportation system, across and between modes throughout Florida, for people and freight;
  - (f) Promote efficient system management and operation; and
- (g) Emphasize the preservation of the existing transportation system.
  - (3) FORMAT, SCHEDULE, AND REVIEW.--The Florida
    Transportation Plan shall be a unified, concise planning document
    that clearly defines the state's long-range transportation goals
    and objectives and documents the department's short-range
    objectives developed to further such goals and objectives. The

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

1624 plan shall:

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- (a) Include a glossary that clearly and succinctly defines any and all phrases, words, or terms of art included in the plan, with which the general public may be unfamiliar. and shall consist of, at a minimum, the following components:
- (b) (a) Document A long-range component documenting the goals and long-term objectives necessary to implement the results of the department's findings from its examination of the prevailing principles and criteria provided under listed in subsection (2) and s. 334.046(1). The long-range component must
- (c) Be developed in cooperation with the metropolitan planning organizations and reconciled, to the maximum extent feasible, with the long-range plans developed by metropolitan planning organizations pursuant to s. 339.175. The plan must also
- (d) Be developed in consultation with affected local officials in nonmetropolitan areas and with any affected Indian tribal governments. The plan must
- (e) Provide an examination of transportation issues likely to arise during at least a 20-year period. The long-range component shall
- (f) Be updated at least once every 5 years, or more often as necessary, to reflect substantive changes to federal or state law.
- (b) A short-range component documenting the short-term objectives and strategies necessary to implement the goals and long-term objectives contained in the long-range component. The short-range component must define the relationship between the long-range goals and the short-range objectives, specify those objectives against which the department's achievement of such

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

goals will be measured, and identify transportation strategies necessary to efficiently achieve the goals and objectives in the plan. It must provide a policy framework within which the department's legislative budget request, the strategic information resource management plan, and the work program are developed. The short-range component shall serve as the department's annual agency strategic plan pursuant to s. 186.021. The short-range component shall be developed consistent with available and forecasted state and federal funds. The short-range component shall also be submitted to the Florida Transportation Commission.

- (4) ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT. -- The department shall develop an annual performance report evaluating the operation of the department for the preceding fiscal year. The report shall also include a summary of the financial operations of the department and shall annually evaluate how well the adopted work program meets the short-term objectives contained in the short-range component of the Florida Transportation Plan. This performance report shall be submitted to the Florida Transportation commission and the legislative appropriations and transportation committees.
  - (4) (5) ADDITIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLANS. --
- (a) Upon request by local governmental entities, the department may in its discretion develop and design transportation corridors, arterial and collector streets, vehicular parking areas, and other support facilities which are consistent with the plans of the department for major transportation facilities. The department may render to local governmental entities or their planning agencies such technical

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

assistance and services as are necessary so that local plans and facilities are coordinated with the plans and facilities of the department.

Each regional planning council, as provided for in s. (b) 186.504, or any successor agency thereto, shall develop, as an element of its strategic regional policy plan, transportation goals and policies. The transportation goals and policies must be prioritized to comply with the prevailing principles provided in subsection (2) and s. 334.046(1). The transportation goals and policies shall be consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the goals and policies of the metropolitan planning organization and the Florida Transportation Plan. The transportation goals and policies of the regional planning council will be advisory only and shall be submitted to the department and any affected metropolitan planning organization for their consideration and comments. Metropolitan planning organization plans and other local transportation plans shall be developed consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with the regional transportation goals and policies. The regional planning council shall review urbanized area transportation plans and any other planning products stipulated in s. 339.175 and provide the department and respective metropolitan planning organizations with written recommendations which the department and the metropolitan planning organizations shall take under advisement. Further, the regional planning councils shall directly assist local governments which are not part of a metropolitan area transportation planning process in the development of the transportation element of their comprehensive plans as required by s. 163.3177.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(c) Regional transportation plans may be developed in regional transportation areas in accordance with an interlocal agreement entered into pursuant to s. 163.01 by two or more contiguous metropolitan planning organizations; one or more metropolitan planning organizations and one or more contiguous counties, none of which is a member of a metropolitan planning organization; a multicounty regional transportation authority created by or pursuant to law; two or more contiguous counties that are not members of a metropolitan planning organization; or metropolitan planning organizations comprised of three or more counties.

- (d) The interlocal agreement must, at a minimum, identify the entity that will coordinate the development of the regional transportation plan; delineate the boundaries of the regional transportation area; provide the duration of the agreement and specify how the agreement may be terminated, modified, or rescinded; describe the process by which the regional transportation plan will be developed; and provide how members of the entity will resolve disagreements regarding interpretation of the interlocal agreement or disputes relating to the development or content of the regional transportation plan. Such interlocal agreement shall become effective upon its recordation in the official public records of each county in the regional transportation area.
- (e) The regional transportation plan developed pursuant to this section must, at a minimum, identify regionally significant transportation facilities located within a regional transportation area and contain a prioritized list of regionally significant projects. The level-of-service standards for

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

facilities to be funded under this subsection shall be adopted by the appropriate local government in accordance with s. 163.3180(10). The projects shall be adopted into the capital improvements schedule of the local government comprehensive plan pursuant to s. 163.3177(3).

- (5)(6) PROCEDURES FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING.--
- the Florida Transportation Plan and prior to substantive revisions, the department shall provide citizens, affected public agencies, representatives of transportation agency employees, other affected employee representatives, private providers of transportation, and other known interested parties with an opportunity to comment on the proposed plan or revisions. These opportunities shall include, at a minimum, publishing a notice in the Florida Administrative Weekly and within a newspaper of general circulation within the area of each department district office.
- (b) During development of major transportation improvements, such as those increasing the capacity of a facility through the addition of new lanes or providing new access to a limited or controlled access facility or construction of a facility in a new location, the department shall hold one or more hearings prior to the selection of the facility to be provided; prior to the selection of the site or corridor of the proposed facility; and prior to the selection of and commitment to a specific design proposal for the proposed facility. Such public hearings shall be conducted so as to provide an opportunity for effective participation by interested persons in the process of

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

transportation planning and site and route selection and in the specific location and design of transportation facilities. The various factors involved in the decision or decisions and any alternative proposals shall be clearly presented so that the persons attending the hearing may present their views relating to the decision or decisions which will be made.

- (c) Opportunity for design hearings:
- 1. The department, prior to holding a design hearing, shall duly notify all affected property owners of record, as recorded in the property appraiser's office, by mail at least 20 days prior to the date set for the hearing. The affected property owners shall be:
- a. Those whose property lies in whole or in part within 300 feet on either side of the centerline of the proposed facility.
- b. Those whom the department determines will be substantially affected environmentally, economically, socially, or safetywise.
- 2. For each subsequent hearing, the department shall publish notice prior to the hearing date in a newspaper of general circulation for the area affected. These notices must be published twice, with the first notice appearing at least 15 days, but no later than 30 days, before the hearing.
- 3. A copy of the notice of opportunity for the hearing must be furnished to the United States Department of Transportation and to the appropriate departments of the state government at the time of publication.
- 4. The opportunity for another hearing shall be afforded in any case when proposed locations or designs are so changed from those presented in the notices specified above or at a hearing as

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

to have a substantially different social, economic, or environmental effect.

- 5. The opportunity for a hearing shall be afforded in each case in which the department is in doubt as to whether a hearing is required.
- Section 26. Subsection (3) and paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (4) of section 339.2816, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 339.2816 Small County Road Assistance Program. --
- (3) Beginning with fiscal year 1999-2000 until fiscal year 2009-2010, and beginning again with fiscal year 2012-2013, up to \$25 million annually from the State Transportation Trust Fund may be used for the purposes of funding the Small County Road Assistance Program as described in this section.

(4)

- (b) In determining a county's eligibility for assistance under this program, the department may consider whether the county has attempted to keep county roads in satisfactory condition, including the amount of local option fuel tax and ad valorem millage rate imposed by the county. The department may also consider the extent to which the county has offered to provide a match of local funds with state funds provided under the program. At a minimum, small counties shall be eligible only if:
- 1. The county has enacted the maximum rate of the local option fuel tax authorized by s. 336.025(1)(a)., and has imposed an ad valorem millage rate of at least 8 mills; or
- 2. The county has imposed an ad valorem millage rate of 10 mills.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(c) The following criteria shall be used to prioritize road projects for funding under the program:

- 1. The primary criterion is the physical condition of the road as measured by the department.
  - 2. As secondary criteria the department may consider:
  - a. Whether a road is used as an evacuation route.
  - b. Whether a road has high levels of agricultural travel.
  - c. Whether a road is considered a major arterial route.
  - d. Whether a road is considered a feeder road.
- e. Whether a road is located in a fiscally constrained county, as defined in s. 218.67(1).
- $\underline{\text{f.e.}}$  Other criteria related to the impact of a project on the public road system or on the state or local economy as determined by the department.
- Section 27. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 339.2819, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 339.2819 Transportation Regional Incentive Program. --
- (1) There is created within the Department of Transportation a Transportation Regional Incentive Program for the purpose of providing funds to improve regionally significant transportation facilities in regional transportation areas created pursuant to s. 339.155(4)(5).
- (3) The department shall allocate funding available for the Transportation Regional Incentive Program to the districts based on a factor derived from equal parts of population and motor fuel collections for eligible counties in regional transportation areas created pursuant to s.  $339.155(4)\frac{(5)}{(5)}$ .
- Section 28. Subsection (6) of section 339.285, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

339.285 Enhanced Bridge Program for Sustainable Transportation.--

(6) Preference shall be given to bridge projects located on corridors that connect to the Strategic Intermodal System, created under s. 339.64, and that have been identified as regionally significant in accordance with s. 339.155(4)(5)(c), (d), and (e).

Section 29. Subsection (4) of section 348.0003, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.0003 Expressway authority; formation; membership.--

- (4) (a) An authority may employ an executive secretary, an executive director, its own counsel and legal staff, technical experts, and such engineers and employees, permanent or temporary, as it may require and shall determine the qualifications and fix the compensation of such persons, firms, or corporations. An authority may employ a fiscal agent or agents; however, the authority must solicit sealed proposals from at least three persons, firms, or corporations for the performance of any services as fiscal agents. An authority may delegate to one or more of its agents or employees such of its power as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of the Florida Expressway Authority Act, subject always to the supervision and control of the authority. Members of an authority may be removed from office by the Governor for misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, or nonfeasance in office.
- (b) Members of an authority are entitled to receive from the authority their travel and other necessary expenses incurred in connection with the business of the authority as provided in s. 112.061, but they may not draw salaries or other compensation.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(c) Members of each expressway an authority, transportation authority, bridge authority, or toll authority, created pursuant to this chapter, chapter 343 or chapter 349, or pursuant to any other legislative enactment, shall be required to comply with the applicable financial disclosure requirements of s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution. This subsection does not subject a statutorily created expressway authority, transportation authority, bridge authority, or toll authority, other than one created under this part, to any of the requirements of this part other than those contained in this subsection.

Section 30. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (1) of section 348.0004, Florida Statutes, to read:

348.0004 Purposes and powers.--

(1)

authorities as defined in chapter 348 shall index toll rates on toll facilities to the annual Consumer Price Index or similar inflation indicators. Toll rate index for inflation under this subsection must be adopted and approved by the expressway authority board at a public meeting and may be made no more frequently than once a year and must be made no less frequently than once every 5 years as necessary to accommodate cash toll rate schedules. Toll rates may be increased beyond these limits as directed by bond documents, covenants, or governing body authorization or pursuant to department administrative rule.

Section 31. Part III of chapter 343, Florida Statutes, consisting of sections 343.71, 343.72, 343.73, 343.74, 343.75, 343.76, and 343.77, is repealed.

Section 32. The Department of Transportation, in

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

consultation with the Department of Law Enforcement, the Division of Emergency Management of the Department of Community Affairs, and the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, and regional planning councils within whose jurisdictional area the I-95 corridor lies, shall complete a study of transportation alternatives for the travel corridor parallel to Interstate 95 which takes into account the transportation, emergency management, homeland security, and economic development needs of the state. The report must include identification of costeffective measures that may be implemented to alleviate congestion on Interstate 95, facilitate emergency and security responses, and foster economic development. The Department of Transportation shall send the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and each affected metropolitan planning organization by June 30, 2009.

Section 33. Subsection (18) of section 409.908, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.908 Reimbursement of Medicaid providers.—Subject to specific appropriations, the agency shall reimburse Medicaid providers, in accordance with state and federal law, according to methodologies set forth in the rules of the agency and in policy manuals and handbooks incorporated by reference therein. These methodologies may include fee schedules, reimbursement methods based on cost reporting, negotiated fees, competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, and other mechanisms the agency considers efficient and effective for purchasing services or goods on behalf of recipients. If a provider is reimbursed based on cost reporting and submits a cost report late and that cost report

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

would have been used to set a lower reimbursement rate for a rate semester, then the provider's rate for that semester shall be retroactively calculated using the new cost report, and full payment at the recalculated rate shall be effected retroactively. Medicare-granted extensions for filing cost reports, if applicable, shall also apply to Medicaid cost reports. Payment for Medicaid compensable services made on behalf of Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. Further, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, provided the adjustment is consistent with legislative intent.

Appropriations Act, a provider of transportation services shall be reimbursed the lesser of the amount billed by the provider or the Medicaid maximum allowable fee established by the agency, except when the agency has entered into a direct contract with the provider, or with a community transportation coordinator, for the provision of an all-inclusive service, or when services are provided pursuant to an agreement negotiated between the agency and the provider. The agency, as provided for in s. 427.0135, shall purchase transportation services through the community coordinated transportation system, if available, unless the agency, after consultation with the commission, determines that

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

it cannot reach mutually acceptable contract terms with the commission. The agency may then contract for the same transportation services provided in a more cost-effective manner and of comparable or higher quality and standards determines a more cost-effective method for Medicaid clients. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit or preclude the agency from contracting for services using a prepaid capitation rate or from establishing maximum fee schedules, individualized reimbursement policies by provider type, negotiated fees, prior authorization, competitive bidding, increased use of mass transit, or any other mechanism that the agency considers efficient and effective for the purchase of services on behalf of Medicaid clients, including implementing a transportation eligibility process. The agency shall not be required to contract with any community transportation coordinator or transportation operator that has been determined by the agency, the Department of Legal Affairs Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, or any other state or federal agency to have engaged in any abusive or fraudulent billing activities. The agency is authorized to competitively procure transportation services or make other changes necessary to secure approval of federal waivers needed to permit federal financing of Medicaid transportation services at the service matching rate rather than the administrative matching rate. Notwithstanding chapter 427, the agency is authorized to continue contracting for Medicaid nonemergency transportation services in agency service area 11 with managed care plans that were under contract for those services before July 1, 2004. Section 34. Subsections (8), (12), and (13) of section 427.011, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

427.011 Definitions.--For the purposes of ss. 427.011-427.017:

- (8) "Purchasing agency" "Member department" means a department or agency whose head is an ex officio, nonvoting advisor to a member of the commission, or an agency that purchases transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged.
- (12) "Annual budget estimate" means a budget estimate of funding resources available for providing transportation services to the transportation disadvantaged and which is prepared annually to cover a period of 1 state fiscal year.
- (12) (13) "Nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services" means transportation disadvantaged services that are not sponsored or subsidized by any funding source other than the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund.
- Section 35. Subsection (4) of section 427.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 427.012 The Commission for the Transportation
  Disadvantaged.—There is created the Commission for the
  Transportation Disadvantaged in the Department of Transportation.
- (4) The commission shall meet at least quarterly, or more frequently at the call of the chairperson. Four Five members of the commission constitute a quorum, and a majority vote of the members present is necessary for any action taken by the commission.
- Section 36. Subsections (7), (8), (9), (14), and (26) of section 427.013, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (29) is added to that section, to read:
  - 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.—The purpose of the commission is to accomplish the coordination of transportation services provided to the transportation disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination <u>is</u> shall be to assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by qualified community transportation coordinators or transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

- (7) <u>Unless otherwise provided by state or federal law,</u>

  <u>ensure Assure</u> that all procedures, guidelines, and directives issued by <u>purchasing agencies</u> <u>member departments</u> are conducive to the coordination of transportation services.
- (8) (a) Ensure Assure that <u>purchasing agencies</u> member departments purchase all trips within the coordinated system, unless they <u>have fulfilled the requirements of s. 427.0135(3) and</u> use a more cost-effective alternative provider <u>that meets</u> comparable quality and standards.
- (b) Unless the purchasing agency has negotiated with the commission pursuant to the requirements of s. 427.0135(3), provide, by rule, criteria and procedures for purchasing agencies member departments to use if they wish to use an alternative provider. Agencies Departments must demonstrate either that the proposed alternative provider can provide a trip of comparable acceptable quality and standards for the clients at a lower cost than that provided within the coordinated system, or that the coordinated system cannot accommodate the agency's department's clients.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(9) Unless the purchasing agency has negotiated with the commission pursuant to the requirements of s. 427.0135(3), develop by rule standards for community transportation coordinators and any transportation operator or coordination contractor from whom service is purchased or arranged by the community transportation coordinator covering coordination, operation, safety, insurance, eligibility for service, costs, and utilization of transportation disadvantaged services. These standards and rules must include, but are not limited to:

- (a) Inclusion, by rule, of acceptable ranges of trip costs for the various modes and types of transportation services provided.
- <u>(a) (b)</u> Minimum performance standards for the delivery of services. These standards must be included in coordinator contracts and transportation operator contracts with clear penalties for repeated or continuing violations.
- (b) (c) Minimum liability insurance requirements for all transportation services purchased, provided, or coordinated for the transportation disadvantaged through the community transportation coordinator.
- estimates for transportation disadvantaged services, and the amounts of each agency's actual expenditures, together with the actual expenditures annual budget estimates of each official planning agency, local government, and directly federally funded agency and the amounts collected by each official planning agency issue a report.
- (26) Develop a quality assurance and management review program to monitor, based upon approved commission standards,

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

services contracted for by an agency, and those provided by a community transportation operator pursuant to s. 427.0155. Staff of the quality assurance and management review program shall function independently and be directly responsible to the executive director.

(29) Incur expenses for the purchase of advertisements, marketing services, and promotional items.

Section 37. Section 427.0135, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 427.0135 <u>Purchasing agencies</u> <u>Member departments</u>; duties and responsibilities.—Each <u>purchasing agency</u> <u>member department</u>, in carrying out the policies and procedures of the commission, shall:
- (1) (a) Use the coordinated transportation system for provision of services to its clients, unless each department or purchasing agency meets the criteria outlined in rule or statute to use an alternative provider.
- (b) Subject to the provisions of s. 409.908(18), the Medicaid agency shall purchase transportation services through the community coordinated transportation system unless a more cost-effective method is determined by the agency for Medicaid clients or unless otherwise limited or directed by the General Appropriations Act.
- (2) Pay the rates established in the service plan or negotiated statewide contract, unless the purchasing agency has completed the procedure for using an alternative provider and demonstrated that a proposed alternative provider can provide a more cost-effective transportation service of comparable quality and standards or unless the agency has satisfied the requirements

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

2117 of subsection (3).

- without initially negotiating with the commission, as provided in s. 287.057(5)(f)13., or unless otherwise authorized by statute.

  If the purchasing agency, after consultation with the commission, determines that it cannot reach mutually acceptable contract terms with the commission, the purchasing agency may contract for the same transportation services provided in a more costeffective manner and of comparable or higher quality and standards. The Medicaid agency shall implement this subsection in a manner consistent with s. 409.908(18) and as otherwise limited or directed by the General Appropriations Act.
- (4) Identify in the legislative budget request provided to the Governor each year for the General Appropriations Act the specific amount of money the purchasing agency will allocate to provide transportation disadvantaged services.
- (5) (2) Provide the commission, by September 15 of each year, an accounting of all funds spent as well as how many trips were purchased with agency funds.
- (6)(3) Assist communities in developing coordinated transportation systems designed to serve the transportation disadvantaged. However, a <u>purchasing agency member department</u> may not serve as the community transportation coordinator in any designated service area.
- <u>(7) (4)</u> Ensure Assure that its rules, procedures, guidelines, and directives are conducive to the coordination of transportation funds and services for the transportation disadvantaged.
  - (8) (8) Provide technical assistance, as needed, to

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

community transportation coordinators or transportation operators or participating agencies.

Section 38. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 427.015, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

427.015 Function of the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency in coordinating transportation for the transportation disadvantaged.--

- Each metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall recommend to the commission a single community transportation coordinator. However, a purchasing agency member department may not serve as the community transportation coordinator in any designated service area. The coordinator may provide all or a portion of needed transportation services for the transportation disadvantaged but shall be responsible for the provision of those coordinated services. Based on approved commission evaluation criteria, the coordinator shall subcontract or broker those services that are more cost-effectively and efficiently provided by subcontracting or brokering. The performance of the coordinator shall be evaluated based on the commission's approved evaluation criteria by the coordinating board at least annually. A copy of the evaluation shall be submitted to the metropolitan planning organization or the designated official planning agency, and the commission. The recommendation or termination of any community transportation coordinator shall be subject to approval by the commission.
- (3) Each metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall request each local government in its jurisdiction to provide the actual expenditures an estimate

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

of all local and direct federal funds to be expended for transportation for the disadvantaged. The metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency shall consolidate this information into a single report and forward it, by <a href="September 15">September 15</a> the beginning of each fiscal year, to the commission.

Section 39. Subsection (7) of section 427.0155, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers and duties.—Community transportation coordinators shall have the following powers and duties:

(7) In cooperation with the coordinating board and pursuant to criteria developed by the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, establish eligibility guidelines and priorities with regard to the recipients of nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services that are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund moneys.

Section 40. Subsection (4) of section 427.0157, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.—The purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the community transportation coordinators on the coordination of services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged. The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or designated official planning agency. The appointing authority shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and resources to enable the

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

board to fulfill its responsibilities under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly and shall:

(4) Assist the community transportation coordinator in establishing <u>eligibility guidelines and</u> priorities with regard to the recipients of nonsponsored transportation disadvantaged services that are purchased with Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund moneys.

Section 41. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 427.0158, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

427.0158 School bus and public transportation .--

- (2) The school boards shall cooperate in the utilization of their vehicles to enhance coordinated disadvantaged transportation disadvantaged services by providing the information as requested by the community transportation coordinator required by this section and by allowing the use of their vehicles at actual cost upon request when those vehicles are available for such use and are not transporting students. Semiannually, no later than October 1 and April 30, a designee from the local school board shall provide the community transportation coordinator with copies to the coordinated transportation board, the following information for vehicles not scheduled 100 percent of the time for student transportation use:
- (a) The number and type of vehicles by adult capacity, including days and times, that the vehicles are available for coordinated transportation disadvantaged services;
  - (b) The actual cost per mile by vehicle type available;
  - (c) The actual driver cost per hour;
- (d) Additional actual cost associated with vehicle use outside the established workday or workweek of the entity; and

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(e) Notification of lead time required for vehicle use.

- shall cooperate in the utilization of its regular service to enhance coordinated transportation disadvantaged services by providing the information as requested by the community transportation coordinator required by this section. Annually, no later than October 1, a designee from the local public transit fixed route or fixed schedule system shall provide The community transportation coordinator may request, without limitation, with copies to the coordinated transportation board, the following information:
- (a) A copy of all current schedules, route maps, system map, and fare structure;
  - (b) A copy of the current charter policy;
- (c) A copy of the current charter rates and hour requirements; and
- (d) Required notification time to arrange for a charter. Section 42. Subsection (4) is added to section 427.0159, Florida Statutes, to read:
  - 427.0159 Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund. --
- (4) A purchasing agency may deposit funds into the Transportation Disadvantaged Trust Fund for the commission to implement, manage, and administer the purchasing agency's transportation disadvantaged funds, as defined in s. 427.011(10).
- Section 43. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection
- 2258 (2) of section 427.016, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 2259 427.016 Expenditure of local government, state, and federal funds for the transportation disadvantaged.--
- 2261 (1)

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

Nothing in This subsection does not shall be construed to limit or preclude a purchasing the Medicaid agency from establishing maximum fee schedules, individualized reimbursement policies by provider type, negotiated fees, competitive bidding, or any other mechanism, including contracting after initial negotiation with the commission, which that the agency considers more cost-effective and of comparable or higher quality and standards than those of the commission efficient and effective for the purchase of services on behalf of its Medicaid clients if it has fulfilled the requirements of s. 427.0135(3) or the procedure for using an alternative provider. State and local agencies shall not contract for any transportation disadvantaged services, including Medicaid reimbursable transportation services, with any community transportation coordinator or transportation operator that has been determined by the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Legal Affairs Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, or any state or federal agency to have engaged in any abusive or fraudulent billing activities.

officio, nonvoting advisor to a member of the Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged, shall identify in the legislative budget request provided to the Governor for the General Appropriations Act inform the commission in writing, before the beginning of each fiscal year, of the specific amount of any money the agency will allocate allocated for the provision of transportation disadvantaged services. Additionally, each state agency shall, by September 15 of each year, provide the commission with an accounting of the actual amount of funds expended and the total number of trips purchased.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

Section 44. Subsection (1) of section 479.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

479.01 Definitions. -- As used in this chapter, the term:

(1) "Automatic changeable facing" means a facing that which through a mechanical system is capable of delivering two or more advertising messages through an automated or remotely controlled process and shall not rotate so rapidly as to cause distraction to a motorist.

Section 45. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 479.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

479.07 Sign permits.--

- (1) Except as provided in ss. 479.105(1)(e) and 479.16, a person may not erect, operate, use, or maintain, or cause to be erected, operated, used, or maintained, any sign on the State Highway System outside an urban incorporated area, as defined in s. 334.03(32), or on any portion of the interstate or federal-aid primary highway system without first obtaining a permit for the sign from the department and paying the annual fee as provided in this section. For purposes of this section, "on any portion of the State Highway System, interstate, or federal-aid primary system" shall mean a sign located within the controlled area which is visible from any portion of the main-traveled way of such system.
- (5) (a) For each permit issued, the department shall furnish to the applicant a serially numbered permanent metal permit tag. The permittee is responsible for maintaining a valid permit tag on each permitted sign facing at all times. The tag shall be securely attached to the sign facing or, if there is no facing, on the pole nearest the highway; and it shall be attached in such

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

a manner as to be plainly visible from the main-traveled way. Effective July 1, 2011, the tag shall be securely attached to the upper 50 percent of the pole nearest the highway in a manner as to be plainly visible from the main-traveled way. The permit will become void unless the permit tag is properly and permanently displayed at the permitted site within 30 days after the date of permit issuance. If the permittee fails to erect a completed sign on the permitted site within 270 days after the date on which the permit was issued, the permit will be void, and the department may not issue a new permit to that permittee for the same location for 270 days after the date on which the permit became void.

(b) If a permit tag is lost, stolen, or destroyed, the permittee to whom the tag was issued may must apply to the department for a replacement tag. The department shall establish by rule a service fee for replacement tags in an amount that will recover the actual cost of providing the replacement tag. Upon receipt of the application accompanied by the a service fee of \$3, the department shall issue a replacement permit tag.

Alternatively, the permittee may provide its own replacement tag pursuant to department specifications which the department shall establish by rule at the time it establishes the service fee for replacement tags.

Section 46. Section 479.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

479.08 Denial or revocation of permit.—The department has the authority to deny or revoke any permit requested or granted under this chapter in any case in which it determines that the application for the permit contains knowingly false or knowingly

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

misleading information. The department may revoke any permit granted under this chapter in any case where or that the permittee has violated any of the provisions of this chapter, unless such permittee, within 30 days after the receipt of notice by the department, corrects such false or misleading information and complies with the provisions of this chapter. For the purpose of this subsection, the notice of violation issued by the department shall describe in detail the alleged violation. Any person aggrieved by any action of the department in denying or revoking a permit under this chapter may, within 30 days after receipt of the notice, apply to the department for an administrative hearing pursuant to chapter 120. If a timely request for hearing has been filed and the department issues a final order revoking a permit, such revocation shall be effective 30 days after the date of rendition. Except for department action pursuant to s. 479.107(1), the filing of a timely and proper notice of appeal shall operate to stay the revocation until the department's action is upheld.

Section 47. Section 479.156, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

479.156 Wall murals.--Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a municipality or county may permit and regulate wall murals within areas designated by such government. If a municipality or county permits wall murals, a wall mural that displays a commercial message and is within 660 feet of the nearest edge of the right-of-way within an area adjacent to the interstate highway system or the federal-aid primary highway system shall be located in an area that is zoned for industrial or commercial use and the municipality or county shall establish

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

and enforce regulations for such areas that, at a minimum, set forth criteria governing the size, lighting, and spacing of wall murals consistent with the intent of the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 and with customary use. Whenever a municipality or county exercises such control and makes a determination of customary use, pursuant to 23 U.S.C. s. 131(d), such determination shall be accepted in lieu of controls in the agreement between the state and the United States Department of Transportation, and the Department of Transportation shall notify the Federal Highway Administration pursuant to the agreement, 23 U.S.C. s. 131(d), and 23 C.F.R. s. 750.706(c). A wall mural that is subject to municipal or county regulation and the Highway Beautification Act of 1965 must be approved by the Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration where required by federal law and federal regulation pursuant to and may not violate the agreement between the state and the United States Department of Transportation and or violate federal regulations enforced by the Department of Transportation under s. 479.02(1). The existence of a wall mural as defined in s. 479.01(27) shall not be considered in determining whether a sign as defined in s. 479.01(17), either existing or new, is in compliance with s. 479.07(9)(a). Section 48. Subsections (1), (3), (4), and (5) of section

Section 48. Subsections (1), (3), (4), and (5) of section 479.261, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

479.261 Logo sign program.--

(1) The department shall establish a logo sign program for the rights-of-way of the interstate highway system to provide information to motorists about available gas, food, lodging, and camping, attractions, and other services, as approved by the

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

Federal Highway Administration, at interchanges, through the use of business logos, and may include additional interchanges under the program. A logo sign for nearby attractions may be added to this program if allowed by federal rules.

- (a) An attraction as used in this chapter is defined as an establishment, site, facility, or landmark that which is open a minimum of 5 days a week for 52 weeks a year; that which charges an admission for entry; which has as its principal focus family-oriented entertainment, cultural, educational, recreational, scientific, or historical activities; and that which is publicly recognized as a bona fide tourist attraction. However, the permits for businesses seeking to participate in the attractions logo sign program shall be awarded by the department annually to the highest bidders, notwithstanding the limitation on fees in subsection (5), which are qualified for available space at each qualified location, but the fees therefor may not be less than the fees established for logo participants in other logo categories.
- (b) The department shall incorporate the use of RV-friendly markers on specific information logo signs for establishments that cater to the needs of persons driving recreational vehicles. Establishments that qualify for participation in the specific information logo program and that also qualify as "RV-friendly" may request the RV-friendly marker on their specific information logo sign. An RV-friendly marker must consist of a design approved by the Federal Highway Administration. The department shall adopt rules in accordance with chapter 120 to administer this paragraph, including rules setting forth the minimum requirements that establishments must meet in order to qualify as

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

RV-friendly. These requirements shall include large parking spaces, entrances, and exits that can easily accommodate recreational vehicles and facilities having appropriate overhead clearances, if applicable.

- (c) The department may implement a 3-year rotation-based logo program providing for the removal and addition of participating businesses in the program.
- (3) Logo signs may be installed upon the issuance of an annual permit by the department or its agent and payment of  $\underline{a}$  an application and permit fee to the department or its agent.
- (4) The department may contract pursuant to s. 287.057 for the provision of services related to the logo sign program, including recruitment and qualification of businesses, review of applications, permit issuance, and fabrication, installation, and maintenance of logo signs. The department may reject all proposals and seek another request for proposals or otherwise perform the work. If the department contracts for the provision of services for the logo sign program, the contract must require, unless the business owner declines, that businesses that previously entered into agreements with the department to privately fund logo sign construction and installation be reimbursed by the contractor for the cost of the signs which has not been recovered through a previously agreed upon waiver of fees. The contract also may allow the contractor to retain a portion of the annual fees as compensation for its services.
- (5) Permit fees for businesses that participate in the program must be established in an amount sufficient to offset the total cost to the department for the program, including contract costs. The department shall provide the services in the most

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

efficient and cost-effective manner through department staff or by contracting for some or all of the services. The department shall adopt rules that set reasonable rates based upon factors such as population, traffic volume, market demand, and costs for annual permit fees. However, annual permit fees for sign locations inside an urban area, as defined in s. 334.03(32), may not exceed \$5,000 and annual permit fees for sign locations outside an urban area, as defined in s. 334.03(32), may not exceed \$2,500. After recovering program costs, the proceeds from the logo program shall be deposited into the State Transportation Trust Fund and used for transportation purposes. Such annual permit fee shall not exceed \$1,250.

Section 49. Section 212.0606, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

212.0606 Rental car surcharge; discretionary local rental car surcharge.--

- (1) A surcharge of  $\frac{$2}{$2.00}$  per day or any part of a day is imposed upon the lease or rental of a motor vehicle licensed for hire and designed to carry <u>fewer less</u> than nine passengers, regardless of whether such motor vehicle is licensed in Florida. The surcharge applies to only the first 30 days of the term of any lease or rental <u>and</u>. The surcharge is subject to all applicable taxes imposed by this chapter.
- (2) (a) Notwithstanding <u>s.</u> the provisions of section 212.20, and less costs of administration, 80 percent of the proceeds of the <u>this</u> surcharge <u>imposed under subsection (1)</u> shall be deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund, 15.75 percent of the proceeds of this surcharge shall be deposited in the Tourism Promotional Trust Fund created in s. 288.122, and 4.25

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

percent of the proceeds of this surcharge shall be deposited in the Florida International Trade and Promotion Trust Fund. As used in For the purposes of this subsection, "proceeds" of the surcharge means all funds collected and received by the department under subsection (1) this section, including interest and penalties on delinquent surcharges. The department shall provide the Department of Transportation rental car surcharge revenue information for the previous state fiscal year by September 1 of each year.

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2007-2008 and each year thereafter, the proceeds deposited in the State Transportation Trust Fund shall be allocated on an annual basis in the Department of Transportation's work program to each department district, except the Turnpike District. The amount allocated for each district shall be based upon the amount of proceeds attributed to the counties within each respective district.
- (3) (a) In addition to the surcharge imposed under subsection (1), each county containing an international airport may levy a discretionary local surcharge pursuant to county ordinance and subject to approval by a majority vote of the electorate of the county voting in a referendum on the local surcharge of \$2 per day, or any part of a day, upon the lease or rental, originating at an international airport, of a motor vehicle licensed for hire and designed to carry fewer than nine passengers, regardless of whether such motor vehicle is licensed in this state. The surcharge may be applied to only the first 30 days of the term of the lease or rental and is subject to all applicable taxes imposed by this chapter.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

(b) If the ordinance authorizing the imposition of the surcharge is approved by such referendum, a certified copy of the ordinance shall be furnished by the county to the department within 10 days after such approval, but no later than November 16 prior to the effective date. The notice must specify the time period during which the surcharge will be in effect and must include a copy of the ordinance and such other information as the department requires by rule. Failure to timely provide such notification to the department shall result in delay of the effective date for a period of 1 year. The effective date for any county to impose the surcharge shall be January 1 following the year in which the ordinance was approved by referendum. A local surcharge may not terminate on a date other than December 31.

- (c) Any dealer that collects the local surcharge but fails to report surcharge collections by county, as required by paragraph (4)(b), shall have the surcharge proceeds deposited into the Solid Waste Management Trust Fund and then transferred to the Local Option Fuel Tax Trust Fund, which is separate from the county surcharge collection accounts. The department shall distribute funds in this account, less the cost of administration, using a distribution factor determined for each county that levies a surcharge based on the county's latest official population determined pursuant to s. 186.901 and multiplied by the amount of funds in the account and available for distribution.
- (d) Notwithstanding s. 212.20, and less the costs of administration, the proceeds of the local surcharge imposed under paragraph (a) shall be transferred to the Local Option Fuel Tax Trust Fund and distributed monthly by the department under s.

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

336.025(3)(a)1. or (4)(a) and used solely for costs associated with the construction, reconstruction, operation, maintenance, and repair of facilities under a commuter rail service program provided by the state or other governmental entity. As used in this subsection, "proceeds" of the local surcharge means all funds collected and received by the department under this subsection, including interest and penalties on delinquent surcharges.

- $\underline{(4)}$  (a) Except as provided in this section, the department shall administer, collect, and enforce the surcharge and local surcharge as provided in this chapter.
- (b) The department shall require dealers to report surcharge collections according to the county to which the surcharge <u>and local surcharge</u> was attributed. For purposes of this section, the surcharge <u>and local surcharge</u> shall be attributed to the county where the rental agreement was entered into.
- (c) Dealers who collect <u>a</u> the rental car surcharge shall report to the department all surcharge <u>and local surcharge</u> revenues attributed to the county where the rental agreement was entered into on a timely filed return for each required reporting period. The provisions of this chapter which apply to interest and penalties on delinquent taxes shall apply to the surcharge <u>and local surcharge</u>. The surcharge <u>and local surcharge</u> shall not be included in the calculation of estimated taxes pursuant to s. 212.11. The dealer's credit provided in s. 212.12 shall not apply to any amount collected under this section.
- $\underline{\text{(5)}}$  (4) The surcharge and any local surcharge imposed by this section does not apply to a motor vehicle provided at no

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

charge to a person whose motor vehicle is being repaired, adjusted, or serviced by the entity providing the replacement motor vehicle.

Section 50. Subsections (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), and (14) are added to section 341.301, Florida Statutes, to read: 341.301 Definitions; ss. 341.302 and 341.303.--As used in ss. 341.302 and 341.303, the term:

- (8) "Commuter rail passenger" or "passengers" means and includes any and all persons, ticketed or unticketed, using the commuter rail service on a department owned rail corridor:
- (a) On board trains, locomotives, rail cars, or rail equipment employed in commuter rail service or entraining and detraining therefrom;
- (b) On or about the rail corridor for any purpose related to the commuter rail service, including, without limitation, parking, inquiring about commuter rail service or purchasing tickets therefor, and coming to, waiting for, leaving from, or observing trains, locomotives, rail cars, or rail equipment; or
- (c) Meeting, assisting, or in the company of any person described in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b).
- (9) "Commuter rail service" means the transportation of commuter rail passengers and other passengers by rail pursuant to a rail program provided by the department or any other governmental entities.
- (10) "Rail corridor invitee" means and includes any and all persons who are on or about a department-owned rail corridor:
- (a) For any purpose related to any ancillary development thereon; or
  - (b) Meeting, assisting, or in the company of any person

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

described in paragraph (a).

- (11) "Rail corridor" means a linear contiguous strip of real property that is used for rail service. The term includes the corridor and structures essential to the operation of a railroad, including the land, structures, improvements, rights-of-way, easements, rail lines, rail beds, guideway structures, switches, yards, parking facilities, power relays, switching houses, rail stations, ancillary development, and any other facilities or equipment used for the purposes of construction, operation, or maintenance of a railroad that provides rail service.
- (12) "Railroad operations" means the use of the rail corridor to conduct commuter rail service, intercity rail passenger service, or freight rail service.
- icensee of the department, including, but not limited to, other governmental entities, vendors, retailers, restaurateurs, or contract service providers, within a department-owned rail corridor, except for providers of commuter rail service, intercity rail passenger service, or freight rail service.
- (14) "Governmental entity" or "entities" means as defined in s. 11.45, including a "public agency" as defined in s. 163.01.

Section 51. Present subsection (17) of Section 341.302, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (19) and new subsections (17) and (18) are added to that section, to read:

341.302 Rail program, duties and responsibilities of the department.—The department, in conjunction with other governmental entities units and the private sector, shall develop and implement a rail program of statewide application designed to

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

ensure the proper maintenance, safety, revitalization, and expansion of the rail system to assure its continued and increased availability to respond to statewide mobility needs. Within the resources provided pursuant to chapter 216, and as authorized under <a href="federal law">federal law</a> Title 49 C.F.R. part 212, the department shall:

- corridor from CSX Transportation, Inc., for a maximum purchase price of \$450 million for the primary purpose of implementing commuter rail service in what is commonly identified as the Central Florida Rail Corridor, and consisting of an approximately 61.5-mile section of the existing A-Line rail corridor running from a point at or near Deland, Florida to a point at or near Poinciana, Florida.
- (18) Prior to operation of commuter rail in Central Florida, CSX and the department shall enter into a written agreement with the labor unions which will protect the interests of the employees who could be adversely affected.
- (19) In conjunction with the acquisition, ownership, construction, operation, maintenance, and management of a rail corridor, the department shall have the authority to:
- (a) Assume the obligation by contract to forever protect, defend, and indemnify and hold harmless the freight rail operator, or its successors, from whom the department has acquired a real property interest in the rail corridor, and that freight rail operator's officers, agents, and employees, from and against any liability, cost, and expense including, but not limited to, commuter rail passengers, rail corridor invitees, and

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

trespassers in the rail corridor, regardless of whether the loss, damage, destruction, injury, or death giving rise to any such liability, cost, or expense is caused in whole or in part and to whatever nature or degree by the fault, failure, negligence, misconduct, nonfeasance, or misfeasance of such freight rail operator, its successors, or its officers, agents, and employees, or any other person or persons whomsoever, provided that such assumption of liability of the department by contract shall not in any instance exceed the following parameters of allocation of risk:

- 1. The department may be solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage to commuter rail passengers, rail corridor invitees, or trespassers, regardless of circumstances or cause, subject to subparagraphs 2., 3., and 4.
- 2. When only one train is involved in an incident, the department may be solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage if the train is a department train or other train pursuant to subparagraph 3., but only if in an instance when only a freight rail operator train is involved the freight rail operator is solely responsible for any loss, injury, or damage, except for commuter rail passengers, rail corridor invitees, and trespassers, and the freight rail operator is solely responsible for its property and all of its people in any instance when its train is involved in an incident.
- 3. For the purposes of this subsection, any train involved in an incident that is neither the department's train nor the freight rail operator's train, hereinafter referred to in this subsection as an "other train," may be treated as a department train, solely for purposes of any allocation of liability between

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

the department and the freight rail operator only, but only if the department and the freight rail operator share responsibility equally as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of any incident involving both a department train and a freight rail operator train, and the allocation as between the department and the freight rail operator, regardless of whether the other train is treated as a department train, shall remain one-half each as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident, and the involvement of any other train shall not alter the sharing of equal responsibility as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident.

- 4. When more than one train is involved in an incident:
- a. If only a department train and a freight rail operator's train, or only another train as described in subparagraph 3. and a freight rail operator's train, are involved in an incident, the department may be responsible for its property and all of its people, all commuter rail passengers, rail corridor invitees, and trespassers, but only if the freight rail operator is responsible for its property and all of its people, and the department and the freight rail operator share responsibility one-half each as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident.
- b. If a department train, a freight rail operator train, and any other train are involved in an incident, the allocation of liability as between the department and the freight rail operator, regardless of whether the other train is treated as a department train, shall remain one-half each as to third parties

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606-08395A-08 20081978c2

outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident; the involvement of any other train shall not alter the sharing of equal responsibility as to third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident; and, if the owner, operator, or insurer of the other train makes any payment to injured third parties outside the rail corridor who incur loss, injury, or damage as a result of the incident, the allocation of credit between the department and the freight rail operator as to such payment shall not in any case reduce the freight rail operator's third party sharing allocation of one-half under this paragraph to less than one-third of the total third party liability.

- 5. Any such contractual duty to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless such a freight rail operator shall expressly include a specific cap on the amount of the contractual duty, which amount shall not exceed \$200 million without prior legislative approval; require the department to purchase liability insurance and establish a self-insurance retention fund in the amount of the specific cap established under this paragraph; provide that no such contractual duty shall in any case be effective nor otherwise extend the department's liability in scope and effect beyond the contractual liability insurance and self-insurance retention fund required pursuant to this paragraph; and provide that the freight rail operator's compensation to the department for future use of the department's rail corridor shall include a monetary contribution to the cost of such liability coverage for the sole benefit of the freight rail operator.
  - (b) Purchase liability insurance which amount shall not

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

exceed \$250 million and establish a self-insurance retention fund for the purpose of paying the deductible limit established in the insurance policies it may obtain, including coverage for the department, any freight rail operator as described in paragraph (a), commuter rail service providers, governmental entities, or ancillary development; however, the insureds shall pay a reasonable monetary contribution to the cost of such liability coverage for the sole benefit of the insured. Such insurance and self-insurance retention fund may provide coverage for all damages, including, but not limited to, compensatory, special, and exemplary, and be maintained to provide an adequate fund to cover claims and liabilities for loss, injury, or damage arising out of or connected with the ownership, operation, maintenance, and management of a rail corridor.

(c) Incur expenses for the purchase of advertisements, marketing, and promotional items.

Neither the assumption by contract to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless; the purchase of insurance; nor the establishment of a self-insurance retention fund shall be deemed to be a waiver of any defense of sovereign immunity for torts nor deemed to increase the limits of the department's or the governmental entity's liability for torts as provided in s.

768.28. The requirements of s. 287.022(1) shall not apply to the purchase of any insurance hereunder. The provisions of this subsection shall apply and inure fully as to any other governmental entity providing commuter rail service and constructing, operating, maintaining, or managing a rail corridor on publicly owned right-of-way under contract by the governmental

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

2784 entity with the department or a governmental entity designated by the department.

Section 52. Paragraph (d) of subsection (10) of section 768.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

768.28 Waiver of sovereign immunity in tort actions; recovery limits; limitation on attorney fees; statute of limitations; exclusions; indemnification; risk management programs.—

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For the purposes of this section, operators, dispatchers, and providers of security for rail services and rail facility maintenance providers in the South Florida Rail Corridor or the Central Florida Rail Corridor, or any of their employees or agents, performing such services under contract with and on behalf of the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority or the Department of Transportation shall be considered agents of the state while acting within the scope of and pursuant to guidelines established in the said contract or by rule; provided, however, that the state, for itself, the Department of Transportation and such agents, hereby waives sovereign immunity for liability for torts within the limits of insurance and self insurance coverage provided for each rail corridor, which coverage shall not be less than \$250 million per year aggregate coverage per corridor with limits of not less than \$250,000 per person and \$500,000 per incident or occurrence. Notwithstanding subsection (8), an attorney may charge, demand, receive, or collect, for services rendered, fees up to 40 percent of any judgment or settlement related to the South Florida Rail Corridor or the Central Florida Rail Corridor. This subsection shall not

606-08395A-08 20081978c2

2813	be construed as designating persons providing contracted
2814	operator, dispatcher, security officer, rail facility
2815	maintenance, or other services as employees or agents for the
2816	state for purposes of the Federal Employers Liability Act, the
2817	Federal Railway Labor Act, or chapter 440.
2818	Section 53. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.