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Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Appropriations (Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development)

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Department of Transportation; amending s. 311.07, F.S.; increasing the minimum amount that must be made available annually from the State Transportation Trust Fund to fund the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program; amending s. 311.09, F.S.; increasing the amount per year the department must include in its annual legislative budget request for the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; defining the term "port of entry"; amending s. 316.545, F.S.; providing a specified penalty for drivers of commercial motor vehicles who obtain temporary registration permits entering the state at, or operating on designated routes to, a port-of-entry location; amending s. 333.01, F.S.; defining and redefining terms; amending s. 333.025, F.S.; revising the requirements relating to permits required for obstructions; requiring certain existing, planned, and proposed facilities to be protected from airport hazards; requiring the local government to provide a copy of a complete permit application to the Department of Transportation's aviation office, subject to certain requirements; requiring the department to have a specified review period following receipt of such application;



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providing exemptions from such review under certain circumstances; revising the circumstances under which the department issues or denies a permit; revising the department's requirements before a permit is issued; revising the circumstances under which the department is prohibited from approving a permit; providing that the denial of a permit is subject to administrative review; amending s. 333.03, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; revising the circumstances under which a political subdivision owning or controlling an airport and another political subdivision adopt, administer, and enforce airport zoning regulations or create a joint airport protection zoning board; revising the provisions relating to airport protection zoning regulations and joint airport protection zoning boards; requiring the department to be available to provide assistance to political subdivisions regarding federal obstruction standards; deleting provisions relating to certain duties of the department; revising provisions relating to airport land use compatibility zoning regulations; revising construction; providing applicability; amending s. 333.04, F.S.; authorizing certain airport zoning regulations to be incorporated in and made a part of comprehensive plans and policies, rather than a part of comprehensive zoning regulations, under certain circumstances; revising requirements relating to applicability; amending s. 333.05, F.S.; revising procedures for adoption of airport zoning regulations;



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amending s. 333.06, F.S.; revising airport zoning regulation requirements; repealing s. 333.065, F.S., relating to guidelines regarding land use near airports; amending s. 333.07, F.S.; revising requirements relating to local government permitting of airspace obstructions; requiring a person proposing to construct, alter, or allow an airport obstruction to apply for a permit under certain circumstances; revising the circumstances under which a permit is prohibited from being issued; revising the circumstances under which the owner of a nonconforming structure is required to alter such structure to conform to the current airport protection zoning regulations; deleting provisions relating to variances from zoning regulations; requiring a political subdivision or its administrative agency to consider specified criteria in determining whether to issue or deny a permit; revising the requirements for marking and lighting in conformance with certain standards; repealing s. 333.08, F.S., relating to appeals of decisions concerning airport zoning regulations; amending s. 333.09, F.S.; revising the requirements relating to the administration of airport protection zoning regulations; requiring all airport protection zoning regulations to provide for the administration and enforcement of such regulations by the political subdivision or its administrative agency; requiring a political subdivision adopting airport zoning regulations to provide a permitting process, subject



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to certain requirements; requiring a zoning board or permitting body to implement the airport zoning regulation permitting and appeals process if such board or body already exists within a political subdivision; authorizing a person, a political subdivision or its administrative agency, or a specified joint zoning board to use the process established for an appeal, subject to certain requirements; repealing s. 333.10, F.S., relating to boards of adjustment provided for by airport zoning regulations; amending s. 333.11, F.S.; revising the requirements relating to judicial review; amending s. 333.12, F.S.; revising requirements relating to the acquisition of air rights; amending s. 333.13, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; creating s. 333.135, F.S.; requiring conflicting airport zoning regulations in effect on a specified date to be amended to conform to certain requirements; requiring certain political subdivisions to adopt certain airport zoning regulations by a specified date; requiring the department to administer a specified permitting process for certain political subdivisions; repealing s. 333.14, F.S., relating to a short title; amending s. 334.044, F.S.; authorizing the department to assume certain responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act with respect to highway projects within the state and certain related responsibilities relating to review or approval of a highway project; authorizing the



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department to enter into certain agreements related to the federal surface transportation project delivery program under certain federal law; authorizing the department to adopt implementing rules; authorizing the department to adopt certain relevant federal environmental standards; providing a limited waiver of sovereign immunity to civil suit in federal court consistent with certain federal law; amending s. 334.30, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; requiring the department to consult with the Division of Bond Finance in connection with a proposal to finance or refinance a transportation facility; requiring the department to provide the division with information necessary to provide timely consultation and recommendations; authorizing the division to make an independent recommendation to the Executive Office of the Governor; creating s. 337.027, F.S.; authorizing the department to establish a program for highway projects that assist small businesses; providing a program purpose; defining the term "small business"; authorizing the department to adopt rules; amending s. 338.165, F.S.; removing an option to issue certain bonds secured by toll revenues collected on the Beeline-East Expressway, the Navarre Bridge, and the Pinellas Bayway; authorizing the department's Pinellas Bayway System to be transferred by the department and become part of the turnpike system under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law; providing applicability; repealing chapter 85-364, Laws of Florida, as amended,



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relating to the Pinellas Bayway; amending s. 338.231, F.S.; increasing the number of years before an inactive prepaid toll account is presumed unclaimed; creating s. 339.0809, F.S.; creating a nonprofit corporation to be known as the "Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation"; defining the term "corporation"; providing for membership of a governing board of directors; providing certain powers and duties; authorizing the corporation to enter into service contracts with the Department of Transportation subject to certain requirements; authorizing the corporation to issue and incur notes, bonds, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness under certain circumstances; providing that the fulfillment of the purposes of the corporation promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the state and serves essential governmental functions and a paramount public purpose; providing certain exemptions from taxation and assessments; authorizing the corporation to validate certain obligations subject to certain requirements; providing applicability; prohibiting the benefits and earnings of the corporation from inuring to any private person; requiring title to all property owned by the corporation to revert to the state upon dissolution of the corporation; authorizing the corporation to contract with the State Board of Administration to perform certain services; authorizing the board to



contract with others to provide such services and to recover certain costs; authorizing the department to enter into a service contract in conjunction with the issuance of debt obligations which provides for certain periodic payments; amending s. 348.0004, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Subsection (2) of section 311.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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311.07 Florida seaport transportation and economic development funding.-

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available from the State Transportation Trust Fund to fund the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program.

(2) A minimum of \$25 \$15 million per year shall be made

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The Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development

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Council created in s. 311.09 shall develop guidelines for project funding. Council staff, the Department of

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192 Transportation, and the Department of Economic Opportunity shall

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work in cooperation to review projects and allocate funds in 194 accordance with the schedule required for the Department of

program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4).

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Transportation to include these projects in the tentative work

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Section 2. Subsection (9) of section 311.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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311.09 Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council.-



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(9) The Department of Transportation shall include at least \$25 no less than \$15 million per year in its annual legislative budget request for the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program funded under s. 311.07. Such budget must shall include funding for projects approved by the council which have been determined by each agency to be consistent. The department shall include the specific approved Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program projects to be funded under s. 311.07 during the ensuing fiscal year in the tentative work program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4). The total amount of funding to be allocated to Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Program projects under s. 311.07 during the successive 4 fiscal years shall also be included in the tentative work program developed pursuant to s. 339.135(4). The council may submit to the department a list of approved projects that could be made production-ready within the next 2 years. The list shall be submitted by the department as part of the needs and project list prepared pursuant to s. 339.135(2)(b). However, the department shall, upon written request of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council, submit work program amendments pursuant to s. 339.135(7) to the Governor within 10 days after the later of the date the request is received by the department or the effective date of the amendment, termination, or closure of the applicable funding agreement between the department and the affected seaport, as required to release the funds from the existing commitment. Notwithstanding s. 339.135(7)(c), any work program amendment to transfer prior year funds from one approved seaport project to another seaport project is subject to the



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procedures in s. 339.135(7)(d). Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the department may transfer unexpended budget between the seaport projects as identified in the approved work program amendments.

Section 3. Subsection (94) is added to section 316.003, Florida Statutes, to read:

316.003 Definitions.-The following words and phrases, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this section, except where the context otherwise requires:

(94) PORT OF ENTRY.—A designated location that allows drivers of commercial motor vehicles to purchase temporary registration permits necessary to operate legally within the state. The locations and the designated routes to such locations shall be determined by the Department of Transportation.

Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 316.545, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(2)

(b) The officer or inspector shall inspect the license plate or registration certificate of the commercial vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(66), to determine if its gross weight is in compliance with the declared gross vehicle weight. If its gross weight exceeds the declared weight, the penalty shall be 5 cents per pound on the difference between such weights. In those cases when the commercial vehicle, as defined in s. 316.003(66), is being operated over the highways of the state with an expired registration or with no registration from this or any other



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jurisdiction or is not registered under the applicable provisions of chapter 320, the penalty herein shall apply on the basis of 5 cents per pound on that scaled weight which exceeds 35,000 pounds on laden truck tractor-semitrailer combinations or tandem trailer truck combinations, 10,000 pounds on laden straight trucks or straight truck-trailer combinations, or 10,000 pounds on any unladen commercial motor vehicle. A driver of a commercial motor vehicle entering the state at a designated port-of-entry location, as defined in s. 316.003(94), or operating on designated routes to a port-of-entry location, who obtains a temporary registration permit shall be assessed a penalty limited to the difference between its gross weight and the declared gross vehicle weight at 5 cents per pound. If the license plate or registration has not been expired for more than 90 days, the penalty imposed under this paragraph may not exceed \$1,000. In the case of special mobile equipment as defined in s. 316.003(48), which qualifies for the license tax provided for in s. 320.08(5)(b), being operated on the highways of the state with an expired registration or otherwise not properly registered under the applicable provisions of chapter 320, a penalty of \$75 shall apply in addition to any other penalty which may apply in accordance with this chapter. A vehicle found in violation of this section may be detained until the owner or operator produces evidence that the vehicle has been properly registered. Any costs incurred by the retention of the vehicle shall be the sole responsibility of the owner. A person who has been assessed a penalty pursuant to this paragraph for failure to have a valid vehicle registration certificate pursuant to the provisions of chapter 320 is not subject to the delinquent fee



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authorized in s. 320.07 if such person obtains a valid registration certificate within 10 working days after such penalty was assessed.

Section 5. Section 333.01, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 333.01 Definitions.—As used in For the purpose of this chapter, the term following words, terms, and phrases shall have the meanings herein given, unless otherwise specifically defined, or unless another intention clearly appears, or the context otherwise requires:
- (1) "Aeronautical study" means a Federal Aviation Administration study, conducted in accordance with the standards of 14 C.F.R. part 77, subpart C, and Federal Aviation Administration policy and guidance, on the effect of proposed construction or alteration upon the operation of air navigation facilities and the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace.
- (1) "Aeronautics" means transportation by aircraft; the operation, construction, repair, or maintenance of aircraft, aircraft power plants and accessories, including the repair, packing, and maintenance of parachutes; the design, establishment, construction, extension, operation, improvement, repair, or maintenance of airports, restricted landing areas, or other air navigation facilities, and air instruction.
- (2) "Airport" means any area of land or water designed and set aside for the landing and taking off of aircraft and used utilized or to be used utilized in the interest of the public for such purpose.
- (3) "Airport hazard" means an obstruction to air navigation which affects the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace



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- or the operation of planned or existing air navigation and communication facilities any structure or tree or use of land which would exceed the federal obstruction standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23,77.25, 77.28, and 77.29 and which obstructs the airspace required for the flight of aircraft in taking off, maneuvering, or landing or is otherwise hazardous to such taking off, maneuvering, or landing of aircraft and for which no person has previously obtained a permit or variance pursuant to s. 333.025 or s. 333.07.
- (4) "Airport hazard area" means any area of land or water upon which an airport hazard might be established if not prevented as provided in this chapter.
- (5) "Airport land use compatibility zoning" means airport zoning regulations governing restricting the use of land on, adjacent to, or in the immediate vicinity of airports in the manner enumerated in s. 333.03(2) to activities and purposes compatible with the continuation of normal airport operations including landing and takeoff of aircraft in order to promote public health, safety, and general welfare.
- (6) "Airport layout plan" means a set of scaled drawings that provide a graphic representation of the existing and future development plan for the airport and demonstrate the preservation and continuity of safety, utility, and efficiency of the airport detailed, scale engineering drawing, including pertinent dimensions, of an airport's current and planned facilities, their locations, and runway usage.
- (7) "Airport master plan" means a comprehensive plan of an airport which typically describes current and future plans for airport development designed to support existing and future



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aviation demand.

- (8) "Airport protection zoning regulations" means airport zoning regulations governing airport hazards.
- (9) "Department" means the Department of Transportation as created under s. 20.23.
- (10) "Educational facility" means any structure, land, or use that includes a public or private kindergarten through 12th grade school, charter school, magnet school, college campus, or university campus. The term does not include space used for educational purposes within a multi-tenant building.
- (11) "Landfill" has the same meaning as provided in s. 403.703.
- (12) (7) "Obstruction" means any existing or proposed manmade object or object, of natural growth or terrain, or structure construction or alteration that exceeds violates the federal obstruction standards contained in 14 C.F.R. part 77, subpart C ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, and 77.29. The term includes:
 - (a) Any object of natural growth or terrain;
- (b) Permanent or temporary construction or alteration, including equipment or materials used and any permanent or temporary apparatus; or
- (c) Alteration of any permanent or temporary existing structure by a change in the structure's height, including appurtenances, lateral dimensions, and equipment or materials used in the structure.
- (13) (8) "Person" means any individual, firm, copartnership, corporation, company, association, joint-stock association, or body politic, and includes any trustee, receiver, assignee, or



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other similar representative thereof.

- (14) (9) "Political subdivision" means the local government of any county, municipality city, town, village, or other subdivision or agency thereof, or any district or special district, port commission, port authority, or other such agency authorized to establish or operate airports in the state.
- (15) "Public-use airport" means an airport, publicly or privately owned, licensed by the state, which is open for use by the public.
- (16) (10) "Runway protection clear zone" means an area at ground level beyond the runway end to enhance the safety and protection of people and property on the ground a runway clear zone as defined in 14 C.F.R. s. 151.9(b).
- (17) (11) "Structure" means any object, constructed, erected, altered, or installed by humans, including, but not limited to without limitation thereof, buildings, towers, smokestacks, utility poles, power generation equipment, and overhead transmission lines.
- (18) "Substantial modification" means any repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or improvement of a structure when the actual cost of the repair, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or improvement of the structure equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure.
- (12) "Tree" includes any plant of the vegetable kingdom. Section 6. Section 333.025, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 333.025 Permit required for obstructions structures exceeding federal obstruction standards.-
 - (1) A person proposing the construction or alteration In



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order to prevent the erection of an obstruction must obtain a permit from the department structures dangerous to air navigation, subject to the provisions of subsections (2), (3), and (4), each person shall secure from the Department of Transportation a permit for the erection, alteration, or modification of any structure the result of which would exceed the federal obstruction standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, and 77.29. However, permits from the department of Transportation will be required only within an airport hazard area where federal obstruction standards are exceeded and if the proposed construction or alteration is within a 10-nautical-mile radius of the airport reference point, located at the approximate geometric geographical center of all usable runways of a public-use airport or a publicly owned or operated airport, a military airport, or an airport licensed by the state for public use.

- (2) Existing, planned, and proposed Affected airports will be considered as having those facilities on public-use airports contained in an which are shown on the airport master plan, in or an airport layout plan submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration, Airport District Office or in comparable military documents shall, and will be so protected from airport hazards. Planned or proposed public-use airports which are the subject of a notice or proposal submitted to the Federal Aviation Administration or to the Department of Transportation shall also be protected.
- (3) A permit is not required for existing structures that requirements of subsection (1) shall not apply to projects which received construction permits from the Federal Communications



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Commission for structures exceeding federal obstruction standards before prior to May 20, 1975, provided such structures now exist; a permit is not required for nor shall it apply to previously approved structures now existing, or any necessary replacement or repairs to such existing structures if, so long as the height and location are is unchanged.

- (4) If When political subdivisions have, in compliance with this chapter, adopted adequate airport airspace protection zoning regulations, placed in compliance with s. 333.03, and such regulations are on file with the department's aviation office, and established a permitting process Department of Transportation, a permit for the construction or alteration of an obstruction is such structure shall not be required from the department of Transportation. Upon receipt of a complete permit application, the local government shall provide a copy of the application to the department's aviation office by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by a delivery service that provides a receipt evidencing delivery. To evaluate technical consistency with this subsection, the department shall have a 15-day review period following receipt of the application, which must run concurrently with the local government permitting process. Cranes, construction equipment, and other temporary structures in use or in place for a period not to exceed 18 consecutive months are exempt from the department's review, unless such review is requested by the department.
- (5) The department of Transportation shall, within 30 days after of the receipt of an application for a permit, issue or deny a permit for the construction or erection, alteration, or modification of an obstruction any structure the result of which



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would exceed federal obstruction standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, and 77.29. The department shall review permit applications in conformity with s. 120.60.

- (6) In determining whether to issue or deny a permit, the department shall consider:
 - (a) The safety of persons on the ground and in the air.
 - (b) The safe and efficient use of navigable airspace.
- (c) (a) The nature of the terrain and height of existing structures.
 - (b) Public and private interests and investments.
- (d) The effect of the construction or alteration of an obstruction on the state licensing standards for a public-use airport contained in chapter 330 and rules adopted thereunder.
- (e) (c) The character of existing and planned flight flying operations and planned developments at public-use of airports.
- (f) (d) Federal airways, visual flight rules, flyways and corridors, and instrument approaches as designated by the Federal Aviation Administration.
- (q) (e) The effect of Whether the construction or alteration of an obstruction on the proposed structure would cause an increase in the minimum descent altitude or the decision height at the affected airport.
 - (f) Technological advances.
 - (g) The safety of persons on the ground and in the air.
 - (h) Land use density.
 - (i) The safe and efficient use of navigable airspace.
- (h) (i) The cumulative effects on navigable airspace of all existing obstructions structures, proposed structures identified in the applicable jurisdictions' comprehensive plans, and all



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other known proposed obstructions structures in the area.

- (7) When issuing a permit under this section, the department of Transportation shall, as a specific condition of such permit, require the owner obstruction marking and lighting of the obstruction to install, operate, and maintain, at the owner's expense, marking and lighting in conformance with the specific standards established by the Federal Aviation Administration permitted structure as provided in s. 333.07(3)(b).
- (8) The department may of Transportation shall not approve a permit for the construction or alteration erection of an obstruction a structure unless the applicant submits both documentation showing both compliance with the federal requirement for notification of proposed construction or alteration and a valid aeronautical study. A evaluation, and no permit may not shall be approved solely on the basis that the Federal Aviation Administration determined that the such proposed construction or alteration of an obstruction was not an airport hazard structure will not exceed federal obstruction standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, or 77.29, or any other federal aviation regulation.
- (9) The denial of a permit under this section is subject to administrative review pursuant to chapter 120.
- Section 7. Section 333.03, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 333.03 Requirement Power to adopt airport zoning regulations.-
- (1)(a) In order to prevent the creation or establishment of airport hazards, Every political subdivision having an airport



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hazard area within its territorial limits shall, by October 1, 1977, adopt, administer, and enforce, under the police power and in the manner and upon the conditions hereinafter prescribed in this section, airport protection zoning regulations for such airport hazard area.

- (b) If where an airport is owned or controlled by a political subdivision and any other political subdivision has land, upon which an obstruction may be constructed or altered, underlying any of the 14 C.F.R. Part 77, subpart C surfaces of the airport, the political subdivisions airport hazard area appertaining to such airport is located wholly or partly outside the territorial limits of said political subdivision, the political subdivision owning or controlling the airport and the political subdivision within which the airport hazard area is located, shall either:
- 1. By interlocal agreement, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 163, adopt, administer, and enforce a set of airport protection zoning regulations applicable to the airport hazard area in question; or
- 2. By ordinance, regulation, or resolution duly adopted, create a joint airport protection zoning board that, which board shall have the same power to adopt, administer, and enforce a set of airport protection zoning regulations applicable to the airport hazard area in question as that vested in paragraph (a) in the political subdivision within which such area is located. The Each such joint airport protection zoning board shall have as voting members two representatives appointed by each participating political subdivision participating in its creation and in addition a chair elected by a majority of the



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members so appointed. However, The airport manager or a representative of each airport in managers of the affected participating political subdivisions shall serve on the board in a nonvoting capacity.

- (c) Airport protection zoning regulations adopted under paragraph (a) must shall, at as a minimum, require:
- 1. A permit variance for the construction or erection, alteration, or modification of any obstruction structure which would cause the structure to exceed the federal obstruction standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, and 77.29;
- 2. Obstruction marking and lighting for obstructions structures as specified in s. 333.07(3);
- 3. Documentation showing compliance with the federal requirement for notification of proposed construction or alteration of structures and a valid aeronautical study evaluation submitted by each person applying for a permit variance;
- 4. Consideration of the criteria in s. 333.025(6), when determining whether to issue or deny a permit variance; and
- 5. That approval of a permit not be based no variance shall be approved solely on the determination by the Federal Aviation Administration basis that the such proposed structure is not an airport hazard will not exceed federal obstruction standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, or or any other federal aviation regulation.
- (d) The department shall be available to provide assistance to political subdivisions regarding federal obstruction standards shall issue copies of the federal obstruction



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standards as contained in 14 C.F.R. ss. 77.21, 77.23, 77.25, 77.28, and 77.29 to each political subdivision having airport hazard areas and, in cooperation with political subdivisions, shall issue appropriate airport zoning maps depicting within each county the maximum allowable height of any structure or tree. Material distributed pursuant to this subsection shall be at no cost to authorized recipients.

- (2) In the manner provided in subsection (1), political subdivisions shall adopt, administer, and enforce interim airport land use compatibility zoning regulations shall be adopted. Airport land use compatibility zoning When political subdivisions have adopted land development regulations shall, at a minimum, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 163 which address the use of land in the manner consistent with the provisions herein, adoption of airport land use compatibility regulations pursuant to this subsection shall not be required. Interim airport land use compatibility zoning regulations shall consider the following:
- (a) The prohibition of new landfills and the restriction of existing landfills Whether sanitary landfills are located within the following areas:
- 1. Within 10,000 feet from the nearest point of any runway used or planned to be used by turbine turbojet or turboprop aircraft.
- 2. Within 5,000 feet from the nearest point of any runway used only by only nonturbine piston-type aircraft.
- 3. Outside the perimeters defined in subparagraphs 1. and 2., but still within the lateral limits of the civil airport imaginary surfaces defined in 14 C.F.R. s. 77.19 part 77.25.



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Case-by-case review of such landfills is advised.

- (b) Where Whether any landfill is located and constructed in a manner so that it attracts or sustains hazardous bird movements from feeding, water, or roosting areas into, or across, the runways or approach and departure patterns of aircraft. The landfill operator must political subdivision shall request from the airport authority or other governing body operating the airport a report on such bird feeding or roosting areas that at the time of the request are known to the airport. In preparing its report, the authority, or other governing body, shall consider whether the landfill will incorporate bird management techniques or other practices to minimize bird hazards to airborne aircraft. The airport authority or other governing body shall respond to the political subdivision no later than 30 days after receipt of such request.
- (c) Where an airport authority or other governing body operating a publicly owned, public-use airport has conducted a noise study in accordance with the provisions of 14 C.F.R. part 150, or where a public-use airport owner has established noise contours pursuant to another public study approved by the Federal Aviation Administration, the prohibition of incompatible uses, as established in the noise study in 14 C.F.R. part 150, Appendix A or as a part of an alternative Federal Aviation Administration-approved public study, within the noise contours established by any of these studies, except if such uses are specifically contemplated by such study with appropriate mitigation or similar techniques described in the study neither residential construction nor any educational facility as defined in chapter 1013, with the exception of aviation school



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facilities, shall be permitted within the area contiguous to the airport defined by an outer noise contour that is considered incompatible with that type of construction by 14 C.F.R. part 150, Appendix A or an equivalent noise level as established by other types of noise studies.

- (d) Where an airport authority or other governing body operating a publicly owned, public-use airport has not conducted a noise study, the prohibition of neither residential construction and nor any educational facility as defined in chapter 1013, with the exception of aviation school facilities, shall be permitted within an area contiguous to the airport measuring one-half the length of the longest runway on either side of and at the end of each runway centerline.
- (e) (3) The restriction of In the manner provided in subsection (1), airport zoning regulations shall be adopted which restrict new incompatible uses, activities, or substantial modifications to existing incompatible uses construction within runway protection clear zones, including uses, activities, or construction in runway clear zones which are incompatible with normal airport operations or endanger public health, safety, and welfare by resulting in congregations of people, emissions of light or smoke, or attraction of birds. Such regulations shall prohibit the construction of an educational facility of a public or private school at either end of a runway of a publicly owned, public-use airport within an area which extends 5 miles in a direct line along the centerline of the runway, and which has a width measuring one-half the length of the runway. Exceptions approving construction of an educational facility within the delineated area shall only be granted when the political



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subdivision administering the zoning regulations makes specific findings detailing how the public policy reasons for allowing the construction outweigh health and safety concerns prohibiting such a location.

- (4) The procedures outlined in subsections (1), (2), and (3) for the adoption of such regulations are supplemental to any existing procedures utilized by political subdivisions in the adoption of such regulations.
- (3) (5) Political subdivisions shall provide The Department of Transportation shall provide technical assistance to any political subdivision requesting assistance in the preparation of an airport zoning code. a copy of all local airport protection zoning codes, rules, and regulations and airport land use compatibility zoning regulations, and any related amendments and proposed and granted variances thereto, to shall be filed with the department's aviation office within 30 days after adoption department.
- (4) (6) Nothing in Subsection (2) may not or subsection (3) shall be construed to require the removal, alteration, sound conditioning, or other change, or to interfere with the continued use or adjacent expansion of any educational facility structure or site in existence on July 1, 1993, or be construed to prohibit the construction of any new structure for which a site has been determined as provided in former s. 235.19, as of July 1, 1993.
- (5) This section does not prohibit an airport authority, a political subdivision or its administrative agency, or any other governing body operating a public-use airport from establishing airport zoning regulations more restrictive than prescribed in



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this section in order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public in the air and on the ground.

Section 8. Section 333.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 333.04 Comprehensive zoning regulations; most stringent to prevail where conflicts occur.-
- (1) INCORPORATION.—In the event that a political subdivision has adopted, or hereafter adopts, a comprehensive plan or policy zoning ordinance regulating, among other things, the height of buildings, structures, and natural objects, and uses of property, any airport zoning regulations applicable to the same area or portion thereof may be incorporated in and made a part of such comprehensive plan or policy zoning regulations, and be administered and enforced in connection therewith.
- (2) CONFLICT.—In the event of conflict between any airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter and any other regulations applicable to the same area, whether the conflict be with respect to the height of structures or vegetation trees, the use of land, or any other matter, and whether such regulations were adopted by the political subdivision that which adopted the airport zoning regulations or by some other political subdivision, the more stringent limitation or requirement shall govern and prevail.
- Section 9. Section 333.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 333.05 Procedure for adoption of airport zoning regulations.-
- (1) NOTICE AND HEARING. No Airport zoning regulations may not shall be adopted, amended, or repealed changed under this



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chapter except by action of the legislative body of the political subdivision or affected subdivisions in question, or the joint board provided in s. 333.03(1)(b)2. s. $\frac{333.03(1)}{(b)}$ by the political subdivisions bodies therein provided and set forth, after a public hearing in relation thereto, at which parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard. Notice of the hearing shall be published at least once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper an official paper, $\frac{1}{2}$ or a paper of general circulation, in the political subdivision or subdivisions where in which are located the airport zoning regulations are areas to be adopted, amended, or repealed zoned.

(2) AIRPORT ZONING COMMISSION.—Before Prior to the initial zoning of any airport area under this chapter, the political subdivision or joint airport zoning board that which is to adopt, administer, and enforce the regulations must shall appoint a commission, to be known as the airport zoning commission, to recommend the boundaries of the various zones to be established and the regulations to be adopted therefor. Such commission shall make a preliminary report and hold public hearings thereon before submitting its final report, and the legislative body of the political subdivision or the joint airport zoning board may shall not hold its public hearings or take any action until it has received the final report of such commission, and at least 15 days shall elapse between the receipt of the final report of the commission and the hearing to be held by the latter board. If Where a planning city plan commission, an airport commission, or a comprehensive zoning commission already exists, it may be appointed as the airport zoning commission.



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Section 10. Section 333.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.06 Airport zoning regulation requirements.-

- (1) REASONABLENESS.—All airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter shall be reasonable and may not none shall impose any requirement or restriction which is not reasonably necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter. In determining what regulations it may adopt, each political subdivision and joint airport zoning board shall consider, among other things, the character of the flying operations expected to be conducted at the airport, the nature of the terrain within the airport hazard area and runway protection clear zones, the character of the neighborhood, the uses to which the property to be zoned is put and adaptable, and the impact of any new use, activity, or construction on the airport's operating capability and capacity.
- (2) INDEPENDENT JUSTIFICATION.—The purpose of all airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter is to provide both airspace protection and land uses use compatible with airport operations. Each aspect of this purpose requires independent justification in order to promote the public interest in safety, health, and general welfare. Specifically, construction in a runway protection clear zone which does not exceed airspace height restrictions is not conclusive evidence per se that such use, activity, or construction is compatible with airport operations.
- (3) NONCONFORMING USES .- An No airport protection zoning regulation regulations adopted under this chapter may not shall require the removal, lowering, or other change or alteration of



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any obstruction structure or tree not conforming to the regulation regulations when adopted or amended, or otherwise interfere with the continuance of any nonconforming use, except as provided in s. 333.07(1) and (3).

(4) ADOPTION OF AIRPORT MASTER PLAN AND NOTICE TO AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.—An airport master plan shall be prepared by each public-use publicly owned and operated airport licensed by the department of Transportation under chapter 330. The authorized entity having responsibility for governing the operation of the airport, when either requesting from or submitting to a state or federal governmental agency with funding or approval jurisdiction a "finding of no significant impact," an environmental assessment, a site-selection study, an airport master plan, or any amendment to an airport master plan, shall submit simultaneously a copy of said request, submittal, assessment, study, plan, or amendments by certified mail to all affected local governments. As used in For the purposes of this subsection, the term "affected local government" is defined as any municipality city or county having jurisdiction over the airport and any municipality city or county located within 2 miles of the boundaries of the land subject to the airport master plan.

Section 11. Section 333.065, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 12. Section 333.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.07 Local government permitting of airspace obstructions Permits and variances. -

- (1) PERMITS.—
- (a) A person proposing to construct, alter, or allow an



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airport obstruction in an airport hazard area in violation of the airport protection zoning regulations adopted under this chapter must apply for a permit. A Any airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter may require that a permit be obtained before any new structure or use may be constructed or established and before any existing use or structure may be substantially changed or substantially altered or repaired. In any event, however, all such regulations shall provide that before any nonconforming structure or tree may be replaced, substantially altered or repaired, rebuilt, allowed to grow higher, or replanted, a permit must be secured from the administrative agency authorized to administer and enforce the regulations, authorizing such replacement, change, or repair. No permit may not shall be issued if it granted that would allow the establishment or creation of an airport hazard or if it would permit a nonconforming obstruction structure or tree or nonconforming use to be made or become higher or to become a greater hazard to air navigation than it was when the applicable airport protection zoning regulation was adopted which allowed the establishment or creation of the obstruction, or than it is when the application for a permit is made.

(b) If Whenever the political subdivision or its administrative agency determines that a nonconforming obstruction use or nonconforming structure or tree has been abandoned or is more than 80 percent torn down, destroyed, deteriorated, or decayed, a no permit may not shall be granted if it that would allow the obstruction said structure or tree to exceed the applicable height limit or otherwise deviate from the airport protection zoning regulations.; and, Whether or not an



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application is made for a permit under this subsection or not, the said agency may by appropriate action, compel the owner of the nonconforming obstruction may be required structure or tree, at his or her own expense, to lower, remove, reconstruct, alter, or equip such obstruction object as may be necessary to conform to the current airport protection zoning regulations. If the owner of the nonconforming obstruction neglects or refuses structure or tree shall neglect or refuse to comply with such requirement order for 10 days after notice thereof, the administrative said agency may report the violation to the political subdivision involved therein, which subdivision, through its appropriate agency, may proceed to have the obstruction object so lowered, removed, reconstructed, altered, or equipped, and assess the cost and expense thereof upon the owner of the obstruction object or the land whereon it is or was located, and, unless such an assessment is paid within 90 days from the service of notice thereof on the owner or the owner's agent, of such object or land, the sum shall be a lien on said land, and shall bear interest thereafter at the rate of 6 percent per annum until paid, and shall be collected in the same manner as taxes on real property are collected by said political subdivision, or, at the option of said political subdivision, said lien may be enforced in the manner provided for enforcement of liens by chapter 85.

- (c) Except as provided herein, applications for permits shall be granted, provided the matter applied for meets the provisions of this chapter and the regulations adopted and in force hereunder.
 - (2) CONSIDERATIONS WHEN ISSUING OR DENYING PERMITS.—In



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determining whether to issue or deny a permit, the political subdivision or its administrative agency must consider the following, as applicable:

- (a) The safety of persons on the ground and in the air.
- (b) The safe and efficient use of navigable airspace.
- (c) The nature of the terrain and height of existing structures.
- (d) The effect of the construction or alteration on the state licensing standards for a public-use airport contained in chapter 330 and rules adopted thereunder.
- (e) The character of existing and planned flight operations and developments at public-use airports.
- (f) Federal airways, visual flight rules, flyways and corridors, and instrument approaches as designated by the Federal Aviation Administration.
- (g) The effect of the construction or alteration of the proposed structure on the minimum descent altitude or the decision height at the affected airport.
- (h) The cumulative effects on navigable airspace of all existing structures and all other known proposed structures in the area.
- (i) Additional requirements adopted by the political subdivision or administrative agency pertinent to evaluation and protection of airspace and airport operations.
 - (2) VARIANCES.-
- (a) Any person desiring to erect any structure, increase the height of any structure, permit the growth of any tree, or otherwise use his or her property in violation of the airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter or any land



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development regulation adopted pursuant to the provisions of chapter 163 pertaining to airport land use compatibility, may apply to the board of adjustment for a variance from the zoning regulations in question. At the time of filing the application, the applicant shall forward to the department by certified mail, return receipt requested, a copy of the application. The department shall have 45 days from receipt of the application to comment and to provide its comments or waiver of that right to the applicant and the board of adjustment. The department shall include its explanation for any objections stated in its comments. If the department fails to provide its comments within 45 days of receipt of the application, its right to comment is waived. The board of adjustment may proceed with its consideration of the application only upon the receipt of the department's comments or waiver of that right as demonstrated by the filing of a copy of the return receipt with the board. Noncompliance with this section shall be grounds to appeal pursuant to s. 333.08 and to apply for judicial relief pursuant to s. 333.11. Such variances may only be allowed where a literal application or enforcement of the regulations would result in practical difficulty or unnecessary hardship and where the relief granted would not be contrary to the public interest but would do substantial justice and be in accordance with the spirit of the regulations and this chapter. However, any variance may be allowed subject to any reasonable conditions that the board of adjustment may deem necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter. (b) The Department of Transportation shall have the

authority to appeal any variance granted under this chapter



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pursuant to s. 333.08, and to apply for judicial relief pursuant to s. 333.11.

- (3) OBSTRUCTION MARKING AND LIGHTING.-
- (a) In issuing a granting any permit or variance under this section, the political subdivision or its administrative agency or board of adjustment shall require the owner of the obstruction structure or tree in question to install, operate, and maintain thereon, at his or her own expense, such marking and lighting in conformance with the specific standards established by the Federal Aviation Administration as may be necessary to indicate to aircraft pilots the presence of an obstruction.
- (b) Such marking and lighting shall conform to the specific standards established by rule by the Department of Transportation.
- (c) Existing structures not in compliance on October 1, 1988, shall be required to comply whenever the existing marking requires refurbishment, whenever the existing lighting requires replacement, or within 5 years of October 1, 1988, whichever occurs first.
- Section 13. Section 333.08, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 14. Section 333.09, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 333.09 Administration of airport protection zoning regulations.-
- (1) ADMINISTRATION.—All airport protection zoning regulations adopted under this chapter shall provide for the administration and enforcement of such regulations by the political subdivision or its administrative agency an



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administrative agency which may be an agency created by such regulations or any official, board, or other existing agency of the political subdivision adopting the regulations or of one of the political subdivisions which participated in the creation of the joint airport zoning board adopting the regulations, if satisfactory to that political subdivision, but in no case shall such administrative agency be or include any member of the board of adjustment. The duties of any administrative agency designated pursuant to this chapter must shall include that of hearing and deciding all permits under s. 333.07 \pm 3 deciding all matters under s. 333.07(3), as they pertain to such agency, and all other matters under this chapter applying to said agency, but such agency shall not have or exercise any of the powers herein delegated to the board of adjustment.

- (2) LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCESS.-
- (a) A political subdivision required to adopt airport zoning regulations under this chapter shall provide a process to:
 - 1. Issue or deny permits consistent with s. 333.07.
- 2. Provide the department with a copy of a complete application consistent with s. 333.025(4).
- 3. Enforce the issuance or denial of a permit or other determination made by the administrative agency with respect to airport zoning regulations.
- (b) If a zoning board or permitting body already exists within a political subdivision, the zoning board or permitting body may implement the airport zoning regulation permitting and appeals processes.
 - (3) APPEALS.-



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- (a) A person, a political subdivision or its administrative agency, or a joint airport zoning board that contends that a decision made by a political subdivision or its administrative agency is an improper application of airport zoning regulations may use the process established for an appeal.
- (b) All appeals taken under this section must be taken within a reasonable time, as provided by the political subdivision or its administrative agency, by filing with the entity from which the appeal is taken a notice of appeal specifying the grounds for appeal.
- (c) An appeal shall stay all proceedings in the underlying action appealed from, unless the entity from which the appeal is taken certifies pursuant to the rules for appeal that by reason of the facts stated in the certificate a stay would, in its opinion, cause imminent peril to life or property. In such cases, proceedings may not be stayed except by order of the political subdivision or its administrative agency on notice to the entity from which the appeal is taken and for good cause shown.
- (d) The political subdivision or its administrative agency shall set a reasonable time for the hearing of appeals, give public notice and due notice to the parties in interest, and decide the same within a reasonable time. Upon the hearing, any party may appear in person, by agent, or by attorney.
- (e) The political subdivision or its administrative agency may, in conformity with this chapter, affirm, reverse, or modify the decision on the permit or other determination from which the appeal is taken.
 - Section 15. Section 333.10, Florida Statutes, is repealed.



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Section 16. Section 333.11, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.11 Judicial review.-

- (1) Any person, aggrieved, or taxpayer affected, by any decision of a board of adjustment, or any governing body of a political subdivision, or the Department of Transportation or any joint airport zoning board affected by a decision of a political subdivision, or its of any administrative agency hereunder, may apply for judicial relief to the circuit court in the judicial circuit where the political subdivision board of adjustment is located within 30 days after rendition of the decision by the board of adjustment. Review shall be by petition for writ of certiorari, which shall be governed by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure.
- (2) Upon presentation of such petition to the court, it may allow a writ of certiorari, directed to the board of adjustment, to review such decision of the board. The allowance of the writ shall not stay the proceedings upon the decision appealed from, but the court may, on application, on notice to the board, on due hearing and due cause shown, grant a restraining order.
- (3) The board of adjustment shall not be required to return the original papers acted upon by it, but it shall be sufficient to return certified or sworn copies thereof or of such portions thereof as may be called for by the writ. The return shall concisely set forth such other facts as may be pertinent and material to show the grounds of the decision appealed from and shall be verified.
- (2) (2) (4) The court has shall have exclusive jurisdiction to affirm, reverse, or modify, or set aside the decision on the



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permit or other determination from which the appeal is taken brought up for review, in whole or in part, and, if appropriate need be, to order further proceedings by the political subdivision or its administrative agency board of adjustment. The findings of fact by the political subdivision or its administrative agency board, if supported by substantial evidence, shall be accepted by the court as conclusive, and an no objection to a decision of the political subdivision or its administrative agency may not board shall be considered by the court unless such objection was raised in the underlying proceeding shall have been urged before the board, or, if it was not so urged, unless there were reasonable grounds for failure to do so.

(3) (5) If In any case in which airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter, although generally reasonable, are held by a court to interfere with the use and enjoyment of a particular structure or parcel of land to such an extent, or to be so onerous in their application to such a structure or parcel of land, as to constitute a taking or deprivation of that property in violation of the State Constitution or the Constitution of the United States, such holding shall not affect the application of such regulations to other structures and parcels of land, or such regulations as are not involved in the particular decision.

(4) (4) A judicial No appeal to any court may not shall be or is permitted under this section until the appellant has exhausted all of its remedies through application for local government permits, exceptions, and appeals, to any courts, as herein provided, save and except an appeal from a decision of



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the board of adjustment, the appeal herein provided being from such final decision of such board only, the appellant being hereby required to exhaust his or her remedies hereunder of application for permits, exceptions and variances, and appeal to the board of adjustment, and gaining a determination by said board, before being permitted to appeal to the court hereunder.

Section 17. Section 333.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.12 Acquisition of air rights.-If In any case which: it is desired to remove, lower or otherwise terminate a nonconforming obstruction is determined to be an airport hazard and the owner will not remove, lower, or otherwise eliminate it structure or use; or the approach protection necessary cannot, because of constitutional limitations, be provided by airport zoning regulations under this chapter; or it appears advisable that the necessary approach protection be provided by acquisition of property rights rather than by airport zoning regulations, the political subdivision within which the property or nonconforming obstruction use is located, or the political subdivision owning or operating the airport or being served by it, may acquire, by purchase, grant, or condemnation in the manner provided by chapter 73, such property, air right, avigation navigation easement, or other estate, portion, or interest in the property or nonconforming obstruction structure or use or such interest in the air above such property, tree, structure, or use, in question, as may be necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter, and in so doing, if by condemnation, to have the right to take immediate possession of the property, interest in property, air right, or other right



sought to be condemned, at the time, and in the manner and form, and as authorized by chapter 74. In the case of the purchase of any property, or any easement, or estate or interest therein or the acquisition of the same by the power of eminent domain, the political subdivision making such purchase or exercising such power shall, in addition to the damages for the taking, injury, or destruction of property, also pay the cost of the removal and relocation of any structure or any public utility that which is required to be moved to a new location.

Section 18. Section 333.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

333.13 Enforcement and remedies.-

- (1) Each violation of this chapter or of any <u>airport zoning</u> regulations, orders, or rulings <u>adopted promulgated</u> or made pursuant to this chapter shall constitute a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and each day a violation continues to exist shall constitute a separate offense.
- (2) In addition, the political subdivision or agency adopting the airport zoning regulations under this chapter may institute in any court of competent jurisdiction an action to prevent, restrain, correct, or abate any violation of this chapter or of airport zoning regulations adopted under this chapter or of any order or ruling made in connection with their administration or enforcement, and the court shall adjudge to the plaintiff such relief, by way of injunction, (which may be mandatory,) or otherwise, as may be proper under all the facts and circumstances of the case in order to fully effectuate the purposes of this chapter and of the regulations adopted and



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orders and rulings made pursuant thereto.

(3) The department of Transportation may institute a civil action for injunctive relief in the appropriate circuit court to prevent violation of any provision of this chapter.

Section 19. Section 333.135, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 333.135 Transition provisions.-
- (1) Any airport zoning regulation in effect on July 1, 2016, which includes provisions in conflict with this chapter shall be amended to conform to the requirements of this chapter by July 1, 2017.
- (2) Any political subdivision having an airport within its territorial limits which has not adopted airport zoning regulations shall, by July 1, 2017, adopt airport zoning regulations consistent with this chapter.
- (3) For those political subdivisions that have not yet adopted airport zoning regulations pursuant to this chapter, the department shall administer the permitting process as provided in s. 333.025.

Section 20. Section 333.14, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 21. Subsection (34) is added to section 334.044, Florida Statutes, to read:

- 334.044 Department; powers and duties.—The department shall have the following general powers and duties:
- 1153 (34) To assume responsibilities of the United States 1154 Department of Transportation with respect to highway projects 1155 within the state under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, 42 U.S.C. s. 4321 et seq., and with respect to related 1156 responsibilities for environmental review, consultation, or



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other action required under any federal environmental law pertaining to review or approval of a highway project within the state. The department may assume responsibilities under 23 U.S.C. s. 327 and enter into one or more agreements, including memoranda of understanding, with the United States Secretary of Transportation related to the federal surface transportation project delivery program for the delivery of highway projects, as provided by 23 U.S.C. s. 327. The department may adopt rules to implement this subsection and may adopt relevant federal environmental standards as the standards for this state for a program described in this subsection. Sovereign immunity from civil suit in federal court is waived consistent with 23 U.S.C. s. 327 and limited to the compliance, discharge, or enforcement of a responsibility assumed by the department under this subsection.

Section 22. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 334.30, Florida Statutes, is amended, current paragraph (e) of subsection (6) of that section is redesignated as paragraph (f), and new paragraph (e) is added to that section, to read:

334.30 Public-private transportation facilities.—The Legislature finds and declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for the purpose of traveling within the state, and that it is in the public's interest to provide for the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.

(2) Agreements entered into pursuant to this section may authorize the private entity to impose tolls or fares for the use of the facility. The following provisions shall apply to



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such agreements:

- (d) The department shall provide the analysis required in subparagraph (6)(f)2. $\frac{(6)(e)2}{}$ to the Legislative Budget Commission created pursuant to s. 11.90 for review and approval prior to awarding a contract on a lease of an existing toll facility.
- (6) The procurement of public-private partnerships by the department shall follow the provisions of this section. Sections 337.025, 337.11, 337.14, 337.141, 337.145, 337.175, 337.18, 337.185, 337.19, 337.221, and 337.251 shall not apply to procurements under this section unless a provision is included in the procurement documents. The department shall ensure that generally accepted business practices for exemptions provided by this subsection are part of the procurement process or are included in the public-private partnership agreement.
- (e) The department shall consult with staff of the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration in connection with a proposal to finance or refinance a transportation facility pursuant to this section. The department shall provide the division with the information necessary to provide timely consultation and recommendations. The division may make an independent recommendation to the Executive Office of the Governor.

Section 23. Section 337.027, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 337.027 Authority to implement a business development program.-
- (1) The Department of Transportation may establish a program for highway projects that would assist small businesses.



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The purpose of this program is to increase competition, lower prices, and provide increased support to meet the department's future work program. The program may include, but is not limited to, setting aside contracts, providing preference points for the use of small businesses, providing special assistance in bidding and contract completion, waiving bond requirements, and implementing other strategies that would increase competition.

- (2) For purposes of this section, the term "small business" means a business with average gross receipts of less than \$15 million for road and bridge contracts and less than \$6.5 million for professional and nonprofessional services contracts. A business determines its size by averaging its annual gross receipts over the last 3 years, including the receipts of an affiliate as defined in s. 337.165.
- (3) The department may adopt rules to implement this section.

Section 24. Subsection (4) of section 338.165, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (11) is added to that section, to read:

338.165 Continuation of tolls.-

(4) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, pursuant to s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution, and subject to the requirements of subsection (2), the Department of Transportation may request the Division of Bond Finance to issue bonds secured by toll revenues collected on the Alligator Alley and τ the Sunshine Skyway Bridge, the Beeline-East Expressway, the Navarre Bridge, and the Pinellas Bayway to fund transportation projects located within the county or counties in which the project is located and contained in the adopted work program of the



department.

(11) The department's Pinellas Bayway System may be transferred by the department and become part of the turnpike system under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law. The transfer does not affect the rights of the parties, or their successors in interest, under the settlement agreement and final judgment in Leonard Lee Ratner, Esther Ratner, and Leeco Gas and Oil Co. v. State Road Department of the State of Florida, No. 67-1081 (Fla. 2nd Cir. Ct. 1968). Upon transfer of the Pinellas Bayway System to the turnpike system, the department shall also transfer to the Florida Turnpike Enterprise the funds deposited in the reserve account established by chapter 85-364, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 95-382 and 2014-223, Laws of Florida, which funds shall be used by the Florida Turnpike Enterprise solely to help fund the costs of repair or replacement of the transferred facilities.

Section 25. Chapter 85-364, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 95-382 and section 48 of 2014-223, Laws of Florida, is repealed.

Section 26. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of 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 and amounts for the use of the turnpike system as are 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



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the same become due and payable; and to create reserves for all such purposes.

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(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any prepaid toll account of any kind which has remained inactive for 10 3 years shall be presumed unclaimed and its disposition shall be handled by the Department of Financial Services in accordance with all applicable provisions of chapter 717 relating to the disposition of unclaimed property, and the prepaid toll account shall be closed by the department.

Section 27. Section 339.0809, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- 339.0809 Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation. -
- (1) The Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation is created as a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of financing or refinancing projects for the department as provided in subsection (5).
- (2) When used in this section, the term "corporation" means the Florida Department of Transportation Financing Corporation.
- (3) The corporation shall be governed by a board of directors consisting of the director of the Office of Policy and Budget in the Executive Office of the Governor, the director of the Division of Bond Finance, and the Secretary of Transportation. The director of the Division of Bond Finance is the chief executive officer of the corporation and shall direct and supervise the administrative affairs of the corporation and shall control, direct, and supervise the operation of the corporation. The corporation shall have such other officers as



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may be determined by the board of directors.

- (4) The corporation shall have all of the powers of a corporate body under the laws of this state to the extent that they are not inconsistent with or restricted by this section, including, but not limited to, the power to:
- (a) Adopt, amend, and repeal bylaws not inconsistent with this section.
 - (b) Sue and be sued.
 - (c) Adopt and use a common seal.
- (d) Acquire, purchase, hold, lease, and convey such real and personal property as may be proper or expedient to carry out the purposes of the corporation and this section and to sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of such property.
- (e) Elect or appoint and employ such other officers, agents, and employees as the corporation deems advisable to operate and manage the affairs of the corporation, which officers, agents, and employees may be officers or employees of the department and the state agencies represented on the board of directors of the corporation.
- (f) Borrow money and issue notes, bonds, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness necessary to finance or refinance projects as provided in subsection (5).
- (g) Make and execute any and all contracts, trust agreements, and other instruments and agreements necessary or convenient to accomplish the purposes of the corporation and this section.
- (h) Select, retain, and employ professionals, contractors, 1330 1331 or agents, which may include the Division of Bond Finance, as



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necessary or convenient to enable or assist the corporation in carrying out the purposes of the corporation and this section.

- (i) Take any action necessary or convenient to carry out the purposes of the corporation and this section and the powers provided in this section.
- (5) The corporation may enter into one or more service contracts with the department to provide services to the department in connection with projects approved in the department's work program, which approval specifically provides that the department may enter into a service contract for the project pursuant to this section. The department may enter into one or more such service contracts with the corporation and provide for payments under such contracts, subject to annual appropriation by the Legislature. The proceeds from such service contracts may be used for the corporation's administrative costs and expenses after the payments specified in subsection (6). Each service contract may have a term of up to 35 years. In compliance with s. 287.0641 and other applicable law, the obligations of the department under such service contracts do not constitute a general obligation of the state or a pledge of the full faith and credit or taxing power of the state, and such obligations are not an obligation of the State Board of Administration or entities for which it invests funds, other than the department as provided in this section, but are payable solely from amounts available in the State Transportation Trust Fund, subject to annual appropriation. In compliance with this subsection and s. 287.0582, the service contract must expressly include the following statement: "The State of Florida's performance and obligation to pay under this contract is



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contract.

contingent upon an annual appropriation by the Legislature." (6) The corporation may issue and incur notes, bonds, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations or evidences of indebtedness payable from and secured by amounts payable to the corporation by the department under a service contract entered into pursuant to subsection (5) for the purpose of financing or refinancing projects approved as provided in that subsection. The duration of any such note, bond, certificate of indebtedness, or other obligation or evidence of indebtedness may not exceed 30 annual maturities. The corporation may select its financing team and issue its obligations through competitive bidding or negotiated contracts, whichever is most costeffective. Indebtedness of the corporation does not constitute a debt or obligation of the state or a pledge of the full faith and credit or taxing power of the state, but is payable from and secured by payments made by the department under the service

- (7) The fulfillment of the purposes of the corporation promotes the health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the state and serves essential governmental functions and a paramount public purpose.
- (8) The corporation is exempt from taxation and assessments on its income, property, and assets or revenues acquired, received, or used in the furtherance of the purposes provided in this chapter. The obligations of the corporation incurred pursuant to subsection (6) and the interest and income on such obligations and all security agreements, letters of credit, liquidity facilities, or other obligations or instruments arising out of, entered into in connection with, or given to



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secure payment of such obligations are exempt from taxation; however, such exemption does not apply to any tax imposed under chapter 220 on the interest, income, or profits on debt obligations owned by corporations.

- (9) The corporation may validate obligations to be incurred pursuant to subsection (6) and the validity and enforceability of any service contracts providing for payments pledged to the payment of such obligations by proceedings under chapter 75. The validation complaint may be filed only in the Circuit Court of Leon County. The notice required to be published by s. 75.06 must be published in Leon County, and the complaint and order of the circuit court may be served only on the State Attorney for the Second Judicial Circuit. Sections 75.04(2) and 75.06(2) do not apply to a complaint for validation filed under this subsection.
- (10) The corporation is not a special district for the purposes of chapter 189 or a unit of local government for the purposes of part III of chapter 218. The provisions of chapters 120 and 215, except the limitation on the interest rates provided by s. 215.84, which applies to obligations of the corporation issued pursuant to this section, and part I of chapter 287, except ss. 287.0582 and 287.0641, do not apply to this section, the corporation, the service contracts entered into pursuant to this section, or debt obligations issued by the corporation as contemplated in this section.
- (11) The benefits and earnings of the corporation may not inure to the benefit of any private person.
- (12) Upon dissolution of the corporation, title to all property owned by the corporation reverts to the state.



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- (13) The corporation may contract with the State Board of Administration to serve as a trustee with respect to debt obligations issued by the corporation as contemplated by this section; to hold, administer, and invest proceeds of such debt obligations and other funds of the corporation; and to perform other services required by the corporation. The State Board of Administration may perform such services and may contract with others to provide all or a part of such services and to recover its costs and other expenses thereof.
- (14) The department may enter into a service contract in conjunction with the issuance of debt obligations as provided in this section which provides for periodic payments for debt service or other amounts payable with respect to debt obligations, plus any administrative expenses of the corporation.

Section 28. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section 348.0004, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

348.0004 Purposes and powers.

- (9) The Legislature declares that there is a public need for the rapid construction of safe and efficient transportation facilities for traveling within the state and that it is in the public's interest to provide for public-private partnership agreements to effectuate the construction of additional safe, convenient, and economical transportation facilities.
- (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the Florida Expressway Authority Act, any expressway authority, transportation authority, bridge authority, or toll authority may receive or solicit proposals and enter into agreements with private entities, or consortia thereof, for the building,



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operation, ownership, or financing of authority transportation facilities or new transportation facilities within the jurisdiction of the authority which increase transportation capacity. An authority may not sell or lease any transportation facility owned by the authority, without providing the analysis required in s. 334.30(6) s. 334.30(6) (e) 2. to the Legislative Budget Commission created pursuant to s. 11.90 for review and approval prior to awarding a contract on a lease of an existing toll facility. An authority is authorized to adopt rules to implement this subsection and shall, by rule, establish an application fee for the submission of unsolicited proposals under this subsection. The fee must be sufficient to pay the costs of evaluating the proposals. An authority may engage private consultants to assist in the evaluation. Before approval, an authority must determine that a proposed project:

- 1. Is in the public's best interest.
- 2. Would not require state funds to be used unless the project is on or provides increased mobility on the State Highway System.
- 3. Would have adequate safeguards to ensure that no additional costs or service disruptions would be realized by the traveling public and residents of the state in the event of default or the cancellation of the agreement by the authority.
- 4. Would have adequate safeguards in place to ensure that the department, the authority, or the private entity has the opportunity to add capacity to the proposed project and other transportation facilities serving similar origins and destinations.
 - 5. Would be owned by the authority upon completion or



1477 termination of the agreement.

Section 29. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.