

By Senator Artiles

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to high-occupancy toll lanes and
3 express lanes; amending s. 338.166, F.S.; specifying
4 that the Department of Transportation may only collect
5 tolls on high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes
6 for the discharge of certain bond indebtedness on a
7 project existing before a specified date; requiring
8 that the tolls be eliminated after discharge of the
9 project's bond indebtedness; prohibiting the creation
10 of high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes on or
11 after a specified date; requiring existing lanes to no
12 longer be high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes
13 upon elimination of their tolls; providing an
14 effective date.

15
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18 Section 1. Section 338.166, Florida Statutes, is amended to
19 read:

20 338.166 Termination of high-occupancy toll lanes or express
21 lanes.—

22 (1) Under s. 11, Art. VII of the State Constitution, the
23 department may request the Division of Bond Finance to issue
24 bonds secured by toll revenues collected on high-occupancy toll
25 lanes or express lanes established on facilities owned by the
26 department. However,

27 ~~(2)~~ the department may only ~~continue to~~ collect a the toll
28 on ~~the~~ high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes for ~~after~~ the
29 discharge of any bond indebtedness related to a ~~such~~ project
30 that exists before July 1, 2017. After the discharge of any bond
31 indebtedness related to such project, the toll on the high-
32 occupancy toll lanes or express lanes must be eliminated All

40-00329-17

2017250__

33 ~~tolls so collected shall first be used to pay the annual cost of~~
34 ~~the operation, maintenance, and improvement of the high-~~
35 ~~occupancy toll lanes or express lanes project or associated~~
36 ~~transportation system.~~

37 (2)(3) High-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes may not
38 be created on or after July 1, 2017. Upon elimination of the
39 tolls on existing high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes
40 pursuant to subsection (1), such lanes may continue to exist but
41 not as high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes ~~Any remaining~~
42 ~~toll revenue from the high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes~~
43 ~~shall be used by the department for the construction,~~
44 ~~maintenance, or improvement of any road on the State Highway~~
45 ~~System within the county or counties in which the toll revenues~~
46 ~~were collected or to support express bus service on the facility~~
47 ~~where the toll revenues were collected.~~

48 (3)(4) The department may implement variable rate tolls on
49 high-occupancy toll lanes or express lanes.

50 (4)(5) Except for high-occupancy toll lanes or express
51 lanes, tolls may not be charged for use of an interstate highway
52 where tolls were not charged as of July 1, 1997.

53 (5)(6) This section does not apply to the turnpike system
54 as defined under the Florida Turnpike Enterprise Law.

55 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.