

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to transportation; creating s.  
3           218.3215, F.S.; requiring counties to annually by a  
4           date certain provide the Office of Economic and  
5           Demographic Research with certain information;  
6           requiring counties to report such information in the  
7           format specified by the office; requiring the office  
8           to compile the information into a report and submit  
9           the report to the Legislature and the Department of  
10          Transportation; amending s. 316.003, F.S.; revising  
11          definitions; amending s. 316.173, F.S.; authorizing a  
12          person to request an administrative hearing with a  
13          school district within a specified time period after  
14          receiving a notice of violation; providing that the  
15          mailing of the notice of violation constitutes  
16          notification; removing a provision requiring a court  
17          with jurisdiction over traffic violations to determine  
18          whether a specified violation has occurred;  
19          authorizing a school district to appoint a local  
20          hearing officer to conduct an administrative hearing;  
21          providing eligibility requirements for such officer;  
22          providing duties of such officer; providing for civil  
23          penalties and administrative costs; providing  
24          procedures for an administrative hearing; authorizing  
25          certain administrative hearings to be conducted by a

26 specified date; amending s. 316.183, F.S.; requiring  
27 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to  
28 determine certain speed limits; amending s. 316.187,  
29 F.S.; increasing certain speed limits; amending s.  
30 316.20655, F.S.; authorizing a local government to  
31 adopt certain ordinances and provide certain training  
32 relating to the safe operation of electric bicycles;  
33 amending s. 316.2128, F.S.; authorizing a local  
34 government to adopt certain ordinances and provide  
35 certain training relating to the safe operation of  
36 motorized scooters and micromobility devices; amending  
37 s. 316.640, F.S.; authorizing school resource officers  
38 to enforce specified traffic laws on the roadways  
39 within a school district; amending s. 316.650, F.S.;  
40 revising the entity required to provide citation data  
41 in certain cases; amending s. 316.88, F.S.;  
42 prohibiting excessive wakes under certain  
43 circumstances; amending s. 318.18, F.S.; providing  
44 minimum civil penalties for a specified violation  
45 enforced by a school bus infraction detection system;  
46 requiring specified costs to be imposed for specified  
47 violations; requiring such costs to be used by a  
48 school district for specified purposes; requiring such  
49 penalties and costs to be remitted to the school  
50 district at least monthly; amending s. 318.21, F.S.;

51 requiring specified penalties to be distributed in a  
52 certain manner; creating s. 320.0849, F.S.; requiring  
53 the department to issue expectant mother parking  
54 permits; specifying the validity period thereof;  
55 providing design requirements for expectant mother  
56 parking permit placards or decals; providing  
57 application requirements; authorizing such  
58 permitholders to park in certain spaces; amending s.  
59 330.355, F.S.; prohibiting publicly owned airports  
60 from charging a landing fee established on or after a  
61 specified date for certain aircraft operations;  
62 amending s. 331.3051, F.S.; conforming provisions to  
63 changes made by the act; amending s. 334.044, F.S.;  
64 revising conditions under which the Department of  
65 Transportation may acquire property through eminent  
66 domain; amending s. 334.065, F.S.; removing the Board  
67 of Governors of the State University System as  
68 administrator of the Florida Center for Urban  
69 Transportation Research; revising membership of the  
70 Center for Urban Transportation Research advisory  
71 board; creating s. 334.63, F.S.; providing  
72 requirements for certain project concept studies and  
73 project development and environmental studies;  
74 amending s. 337.11, F.S.; providing competitive  
75 bidding and award requirements for contracts for

76 certain projects; providing construction; revising  
77 requirements for requests for proposals for design-  
78 build contracts; revising requirements for selection  
79 and award of phased design-build contracts; removing  
80 provisions relating to design-build and phased design-  
81 build contracts and construction; requiring contracts  
82 to contain protection and indemnity coverage; amending  
83 s. 337.14, F.S.; authorizing the department to waive  
84 certain requirements for push-button or task work  
85 order contracts; revising the amount of contracts for  
86 which the department may waive bonding requirements;  
87 requiring a contractor seeking to bid on a certain  
88 maintenance contract to possess certain  
89 qualifications; amending s. 337.185, F.S.; revising  
90 the amount of a contract that may be subject to  
91 arbitration; revising the timeframe in which  
92 arbitration requests must be made to the State  
93 Arbitration Board; amending s. 337.19, F.S.; revising  
94 the timeframe in which certain suits by and against  
95 the department must commence; removing an obsolete  
96 provision; amending s. 339.175, F.S.; revising  
97 legislative intent; revising requirements for the  
98 designation of additional M.P.O.'s; revising projects  
99 and strategies to be considered in developing an  
100 M.P.O.'s long-range transportation plan and

101 transportation improvement program; removing obsolete  
102 provisions; requiring the department to convene  
103 M.P.O.'s to exchange best practices; authorizing such  
104 M.P.O.'s to develop committees or working groups;  
105 requiring training for new M.P.O. governing board  
106 members to be provided by the department or another  
107 specified entity; removing provisions relating to  
108 M.P.O. coordination mechanisms; including public-  
109 private partnerships in authorized financing  
110 techniques; revising proposed transportation  
111 enhancement activities that must be indicated by the  
112 long-range transportation plan; authorizing each  
113 M.P.O. to execute a written agreement with the  
114 department regarding state and federal transportation  
115 planning requirements; providing that the department  
116 is responsible for scheduling projects in the state  
117 transportation improvement program in collaboration  
118 with the M.P.O.'s; requiring the department and  
119 M.P.O.'s to establish certain quality performance  
120 metrics and develop certain performance targets;  
121 requiring the department to evaluate and post on its  
122 website whether each M.P.O. has made significant  
123 progress toward such targets; removing provisions  
124 relating to the Metropolitan Planning Organization  
125 Advisory Council; amending s. 339.65, F.S.; requiring

126 the department, in collaboration with each M.P.O., to  
127 prioritize certain Strategic Intermodal System highway  
128 corridor projects; amending s. 339.84, F.S.;

129 authorizing the department to expend certain funds for  
130 grants for the purchase of certain equipment within a  
131 specified timeframe; providing requirements for grant  
132 recipients; requiring the department to give certain  
133 priority in awarding grants; creating s. 339.85, F.S.;

134 requiring the department to implement the Next-  
135 generation Traffic Signal Modernization Program;  
136 providing requirements for the program; amending s.  
137 331.310, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; providing  
138 legislative findings regarding widening of a certain  
139 roadway; requiring the department, by specified dates,  
140 to submit certain reports to the Governor and  
141 Legislature; creating s. 332.136, F.S.; establishing  
142 an airport pilot program at the Sarasota Manatee  
143 Airport Authority; providing purpose of the pilot  
144 program; requiring the department to adopt rules;  
145 requiring the department, by a specified date, to  
146 submit a report to the Governor and Legislature;  
147 providing for future repeal; amending s. 348.0304,  
148 F.S.; revising qualifications to be a member of the  
149 governing body of the Greater Miami Expressway Agency;  
150 providing effective dates.

151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157  
158  
159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174  
175

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

**Section 1. Section 218.3215, Florida Statutes, is created to read:**

218.3215 County transportation projects.-

(1) Each county shall annually by January 15 report to the Office of Economic and Demographic Research the following information, by county fiscal year, for revenues received pursuant to s. 212.055(1), for the previous county fiscal year:

(a) The total proceeds from the surtax received by the county.

(b) The amount allocated by the county for road and bridge projects. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research, in consultation with the Department of Transportation, must establish and define broad categories for reporting this information, including, but not limited to, widening, repair and rehabilitation, sidewalks, or payment or pledge of bonds for the construction of roads and bridges.

(c) The total expenditures for road and bridge projects, including by category established pursuant to paragraph (b).

(d) The unexpended balances of funds allocated to road and bridge projects by category.

(e) A list of current road and bridge projects, including the project cost, location, and scope.

176       (f) The amount allocated by the county to all other  
 177 authorized uses of the proceeds from the surtax, excluding road  
 178 and bridge projects and the payment or pledge of bonds for the  
 179 construction of roads and bridges.

180       (2) Each county shall report the information required in  
 181 subsection (1) in the format specified by the Office of Economic  
 182 and Demographic Research. The Office of Economic and Demographic  
 183 Research shall compile the information from each county into a  
 184 report and submit the report to the President of the Senate, the  
 185 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the Department of  
 186 Transportation.

187       **Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and subsections**  
 188 **(41) and (109) of section 316.003, Florida Statutes, are amended**  
 189 **to read:**

190       316.003 Definitions.—The following words and phrases, when  
 191 used in this chapter, shall have the meanings respectively  
 192 ascribed to them in this section, except where the context  
 193 otherwise requires:

194       (3) AUTOMATED DRIVING SYSTEM.—The hardware and software  
 195 that are collectively capable of performing the entire dynamic  
 196 driving task of an autonomous vehicle on a sustained basis,  
 197 regardless of whether it is limited to a specific operational  
 198 design domain. The term:

199       (b) "Dynamic driving task" means all of the real-time  
 200 operational and tactical functions required to operate a vehicle

201 in on-road traffic within its specific operational design  
202 domain, if any, excluding strategic functions such as trip  
203 scheduling; provision of event-based information, advice,  
204 instruction, or revised goals; and selection of destinations and  
205 waypoints.

206 (41) MICROMOBILITY DEVICE.—A motorized transportation  
207 device designed for individual use which is typically 20 to 36  
208 inches in width and 50 pounds or less in weight and which  
209 operates at a speed of typically less than 15 miles per hour but  
210 no more than 28 miles per hour. This term includes both a human-  
211 powered and a nonhuman-powered device such as a bicycle,  
212 electric bicycle, motorized scooter, or any other device that is  
213 owned by an individual or part of a shared fleet ~~Any motorized~~  
214 ~~transportation device made available for private use by~~  
215 ~~reservation through an online application, website, or software~~  
216 ~~for point-to-point trips and which is not capable of traveling~~  
217 ~~at a speed greater than 20 miles per hour on level ground. This~~  
218 ~~term includes motorized scooters and bicycles as defined in this~~  
219 ~~chapter.~~

220 (109) VEHICLE.—Every device in, upon, or by which any  
221 person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a  
222 street or highway, except personal delivery devices, mobile  
223 carriers, and devices used exclusively upon stationary rails or  
224 tracks.

225 **Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law,**

226 **subsections (6) through (19) of section 316.173, Florida**  
227 **Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7) through (20),**  
228 **respectively, paragraph (c) of subsection (1), subsection (5),**  
229 **and present subsections (8), (10), (11), and (12) are amended,**  
230 **and a new subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:**

231 316.173 School bus infraction detection systems.—

232 (1)

233 (c) The school district must ensure that each school bus  
234 infraction detection system meets the requirements of subsection  
235 (19) ~~(18)~~.

236 (5) Within 30 days after receiving the information  
237 required in subsection (4), the law enforcement agency or its  
238 designee must, if it is determined that the motor vehicle  
239 violated s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b), send a notice of violation to  
240 the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in the  
241 violation specifying the remedies available under s. 318.14 and  
242 that the violator must pay the penalty under s. 318.18(5), or  
243 furnish an affidavit in accordance with subsection (11), or  
244 request an administrative hearing with the school district  
245 ~~subsection (10)~~ within 60 ~~30~~ days after the notice of violation  
246 is sent in order to avoid court fees, costs, and the issuance of  
247 a uniform traffic citation. The mailing of the notice of  
248 violation constitutes notification. The notice of violation must  
249 be sent by first-class mail and include all of the following:

250 (a) A copy of one or more recorded images showing the  
 251 motor vehicle involved in the violation, including an image  
 252 showing the license plate of the motor vehicle.

253 (b) The date, time, and location of the violation.

254 (c) The amount of the civil penalty, the date by which the  
 255 civil penalty must be paid, and instructions on how to pay the  
 256 civil penalty.

257 (d) Instructions on how to request a hearing to contest  
 258 liability or the notice of violation.

259 (e) A notice that the owner has the right to review, in  
 260 person or remotely, the video and images recorded by the school  
 261 bus infraction detection system which constitute a rebuttable  
 262 presumption against the owner of the motor vehicle that the  
 263 motor vehicle was used in violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) or (b).

264 (f) The time when, and the place or website at which, the  
 265 recorded video and images may be examined and observed.

266 (g) A warning that failure to pay the civil penalty or to  
 267 contest liability within 60 ~~30~~ days after the notice is sent  
 268 will result in the issuance of a uniform traffic citation. ~~A~~  
 269 ~~court that has jurisdiction over traffic violations shall~~  
 270 ~~determine whether a violation of this section has occurred. If a~~  
 271 ~~court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation~~  
 272 ~~occurred, the court must uphold the violation. If the notice of~~  
 273 ~~violation is upheld, the court must require the petitioner to~~  
 274 ~~pay the penalty previously assessed under s. 318.18(5), and may~~

275 ~~also require the petitioner to pay costs, not to exceed those~~  
276 ~~established in s. 316.0083(5)(e).~~

277 (6)(a) A local hearing officer appointed by the school  
278 district shall administer an administrative hearing process for  
279 a contested notice of violation. The school district may appoint  
280 an attorney who is, and has been for the preceding 5 years, a  
281 member in good standing with The Florida Bar to serve as a local  
282 hearing officer. At the administrative hearing, the local  
283 hearing officer shall determine whether a violation of s.  
284 316.172(1)(a) or (b) has occurred. If the local hearing officer  
285 finds by a preponderance of the evidence that a violation has  
286 occurred, the local hearing officer must uphold the notice of  
287 violation and require the petitioner to pay the penalty  
288 previously assessed under s. 318.18(5). The local hearing  
289 officer shall also require the petitioner to pay costs  
290 consistent with this subsection.

291 (b) Procedures for an administrative hearing conducted  
292 under this subsection are as follows:

293 1. The department shall make available electronically to  
294 each school district or its designee a Request for Hearing form  
295 to assist the district with administering this subsection.

296 2. Any person, herein referred to as the "petitioner," who  
297 elects to request a hearing under this subsection shall be  
298 scheduled for a hearing. The hearing may be conducted virtually  
299 via live video conferencing or in person.

300       3. Within 120 days after receipt of a timely request for a  
301 hearing, the law enforcement agency or its designee shall  
302 provide a replica of the notice of violation data to the school  
303 district by manual or electronic transmission, and thereafter  
304 the school district or its designee shall mail a notice of  
305 hearing, which shall include a hearing date and may at the  
306 discretion of the district include virtual and in-person hearing  
307 options, to the petitioner by first-class mail. Mailing of the  
308 notice of hearing constitutes notification. Upon receipt of the  
309 notice of hearing, the petitioner may reschedule the hearing  
310 once by submitting a written request to the local hearing  
311 officer at least 5 calendar days before the day of the  
312 originally scheduled hearing. The petitioner may cancel his or  
313 her hearing by paying the penalty assessed in the notice of  
314 violation.

315       4. All testimony at the hearing shall be under oath. The  
316 local hearing officer shall take testimony from the law  
317 enforcement agency and the petitioner, and may take testimony  
318 from others. The local hearing officer shall review the video  
319 and images recorded by a school bus infraction detection system.  
320 Formal rules of evidence do not apply, but due process shall be  
321 observed and govern the proceedings.

322       5. At the conclusion of the hearing, the local hearing  
323 officer shall determine by a preponderance of the evidence  
324 whether a violation has occurred and shall uphold or dismiss the

325 violation. The local hearing officer shall issue a final  
326 administrative order including the determination and, if the  
327 notice of violation is upheld, require the petitioner to pay the  
328 civil penalty previously assessed in the notice of violation,  
329 and shall also require the petitioner to pay costs, not to  
330 exceed those established in s. 316.0083(5)(e), to be used by the  
331 school district for technology and operational costs relating to  
332 the hearing process as well as school transportation safety-  
333 related initiatives. The final administrative order shall be  
334 mailed to the petitioner by first-class mail.

335 6. An aggrieved party may appeal a final administrative  
336 order consistent with the process provided in s. 162.11.

337 (c) Any hearing for a contested notice of violation that  
338 has not been conducted before July 1, 2025, may be conducted  
339 pursuant to the procedures in this subsection within 1 year  
340 after such date.

341 (9)(8) A uniform traffic citation must be issued by  
342 mailing the uniform traffic citation by certified mail to the  
343 address of the registered owner of the motor vehicle involved in  
344 the violation if, within 60 days after notification under  
345 subsection (5), payment has not been made, within 30 days after  
346 notification under subsection (5) and if the registered owner  
347 has not submitted an affidavit in accordance with subsection  
348 (11), or the registered owner has not requested an

349 administrative hearing with the school district contesting the  
350 notice of violation pursuant to subsection (6) ~~(10)~~.

351 (a) Delivery of the uniform traffic citation constitutes  
352 notification of a violation under this subsection. If the  
353 registered owner or co-owner of the motor vehicle; the person  
354 identified as having care, custody, or control of the motor  
355 vehicle at the time of the violation; or a duly authorized  
356 representative of the owner, co-owner, or identified person  
357 initiates a proceeding to challenge the citation, such person  
358 waives any challenge or dispute as to the delivery of the  
359 uniform traffic citation.

360 (b) In the case of joint ownership of a motor vehicle, the  
361 uniform traffic citation must be mailed to the first name  
362 appearing on the motor vehicle registration, unless the first  
363 name appearing on the registration is a business organization,  
364 in which case the second name appearing on the registration may  
365 be used.

366 (c) The uniform traffic citation mailed to the registered  
367 owner of the motor vehicle involved in the violation must be  
368 accompanied by information described in paragraphs (5) (a)-(f).

369 (11) ~~(10)~~ To establish such facts under subsection (10)  
370 ~~(9)~~, the registered owner of the motor vehicle must, within 60  
371 ~~30~~ days after the date of issuance of the notice of violation or  
372 the uniform traffic citation, furnish to the law enforcement  
373 agency that issued the notice of violation or uniform traffic

374 citation an affidavit setting forth information supporting an  
375 exception under subsection (10) ~~(9)~~.

376 (a) An affidavit supporting the exception under paragraph  
377 (10) (a) ~~(9) (a)~~ must include the name, address, date of birth,  
378 and, if known, the driver license number of the person who  
379 leased, rented, or otherwise had care, custody, or control of  
380 the motor vehicle at the time of the alleged violation. If the  
381 motor vehicle was stolen at the time of the alleged violation,  
382 the affidavit must include the police report indicating that the  
383 motor vehicle was stolen.

384 (b) If a uniform traffic citation for a violation of s.  
385 316.172(1)(a) or (b) was issued at the location of the violation  
386 by a law enforcement officer, the affidavit must include the  
387 serial number of the uniform traffic citation.

388 (c) If the motor vehicle's owner to whom a notice of  
389 violation or a uniform traffic citation has been issued is  
390 deceased, the affidavit must include a certified copy of the  
391 owner's death certificate showing that the date of death  
392 occurred on or before the date of the alleged violation and one  
393 of the following:

394 1. A bill of sale or other document showing that the  
395 deceased owner's motor vehicle was sold or transferred after his  
396 or her death but on or before the date of the alleged violation.

397 2. Documented proof that the registered license plate  
398 belonging to the deceased owner's motor vehicle was returned to

399 | the department or any branch office or authorized agent of the  
400 | department after his or her death but on or before the date of  
401 | the alleged violation.

402 |         3. A copy of the police report showing that the deceased  
403 | owner's registered license plate or motor vehicle was stolen  
404 | after his or her death but on or before the date of the alleged  
405 | violation.

406 |  
407 | Upon receipt of the affidavit and documentation required under  
408 | paragraphs (b) and (c), or 60 ~~30~~ days after the date of issuance  
409 | of a notice of violation sent to a person identified as having  
410 | care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of  
411 | the violation under paragraph (a), the law enforcement agency  
412 | must dismiss the notice or citation and provide proof of such  
413 | dismissal to the person who submitted the affidavit. If, within  
414 | 60 ~~30~~ days after the date of a notice of violation sent to a  
415 | person under subsection (12) ~~(11)~~, the law enforcement agency  
416 | receives an affidavit under subsection (13) ~~(12)~~ from the person  
417 | who was sent a notice of violation affirming that the person did  
418 | not have care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the  
419 | time of the violation, the law enforcement agency must notify  
420 | the registered owner that the notice or citation will not be  
421 | dismissed due to failure to establish that another person had  
422 | care, custody, or control of the motor vehicle at the time of  
423 | the violation.

424        (12)~~(11)~~ Upon receipt of an affidavit under paragraph  
425        (10) (a) ~~(9) (a)~~, the law enforcement agency may issue the person  
426        identified as having care, custody, or control of the motor  
427        vehicle at the time of the violation a notice of violation  
428        pursuant to subsection (5) for a violation of s. 316.172(1) (a)  
429        or (b). The affidavit is admissible in a proceeding pursuant to  
430        this section for the purpose of providing evidence that the  
431        person identified in the affidavit was in actual care, custody,  
432        or control of the motor vehicle. The owner of a leased motor  
433        vehicle for which a uniform traffic citation is issued for a  
434        violation of s. 316.172(1) (a) or (b) is not responsible for  
435        paying the uniform traffic citation and is not required to  
436        submit an affidavit as specified in subsection (11) ~~(10)~~ if the  
437        motor vehicle involved in the violation is registered in the  
438        name of the lessee of such motor vehicle.

439        (13)~~(12)~~ If a law enforcement agency receives an affidavit  
440        under paragraph (10) (a) ~~(9) (a)~~, the notice of violation required  
441        under subsection (5) must be sent to the person identified in  
442        the affidavit within 30 days after receipt of the affidavit. The  
443        person identified in an affidavit and sent a notice of violation  
444        may ~~also~~ affirm he or she did not have care, custody, or control  
445        of the motor vehicle at the time of the violation by furnishing  
446        to the appropriate law enforcement agency within 60 ~~30~~ days  
447        after the date of the notice of violation an affidavit stating  
448        such.

449           **Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 316.183, Florida**  
 450 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

451           316.183 Unlawful speed.—

452           (2) On all streets or highways, the maximum speed limits  
 453 for all vehicles must be 30 miles per hour in business or  
 454 residence districts, and 55 miles per hour at any time at all  
 455 other locations. However, with respect to a residence district,  
 456 a county or municipality may set a maximum speed limit of 20 or  
 457 25 miles per hour on local streets and highways after an  
 458 investigation determines that such a limit is reasonable. It is  
 459 not necessary to conduct a separate investigation for each  
 460 residence district. The department shall determine the safe and  
 461 available minimum speed limit on all highways that are ~~comprise~~  
 462 a part of the National System of Interstate and Defense Highways  
 463 and have at least ~~not fewer than~~ four lanes ~~is 40 miles per~~  
 464 ~~hour, except that when the posted speed limit is 70 miles per~~  
 465 ~~hour, the minimum speed limit is 50 miles per hour.~~

466           **Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 316.187, Florida**  
 467 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

468           316.187 Establishment of state speed zones.—

469           (2) (a) The maximum allowable speed limit on limited access  
 470 highways is 75 ~~70~~ miles per hour.

471           (b) The maximum allowable speed limit on any other highway  
 472 that ~~which~~ is outside an urban area of 5,000 or more persons and  
 473 that ~~which~~ has at least four lanes divided by a median strip is

474 70 ~~65~~ miles per hour.

475 (c) The Department of Transportation is authorized to set  
476 such maximum and minimum speed limits for travel over other  
477 roadways under its authority as it deems safe and advisable, not  
478 to exceed as a maximum limit 65 ~~60~~ miles per hour.

479 **Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 316.20655, Florida**  
480 **Statutes, is amended, and subsections (8) and (9) are added to**  
481 **that section, read:**

482 316.20655 Electric bicycle regulations.—

483 (1) Except as otherwise provided in this section, an  
484 electric bicycle or an operator of an electric bicycle shall be  
485 afforded all the rights and privileges, and be subject to all of  
486 the duties, of a bicycle or the operator of a bicycle, including  
487 s. 316.2065. An electric bicycle is a vehicle to the same extent  
488 as a bicycle. However, this section may not be construed to  
489 prevent a local government, through the exercise of its powers  
490 under s. 316.008, from adopting an ordinance governing the  
491 operation of electric bicycles on streets, highways, sidewalks,  
492 and sidewalk areas under or within the local government's  
493 jurisdiction; to prevent a municipality, county, or agency of  
494 the state having jurisdiction over a bicycle path, multiuse  
495 path, or trail network from restricting or prohibiting the  
496 operation of an electric bicycle on a bicycle path, multiuse  
497 path, or trail network; or to prevent a municipality, county, or  
498 agency of the state having jurisdiction over a beach as defined

499 | in s. 161.54(3) or a dune as defined in s. 161.54(4) from  
 500 | restricting or prohibiting the operation of an electric bicycle  
 501 | on such beach or dune.

502 | (8) A local government may adopt an ordinance providing  
 503 | one or more minimum age requirements to operate an electric  
 504 | bicycle and may adopt an ordinance requiring an operator of an  
 505 | electric bicycle to possess a government-issued photographic  
 506 | identification while operating the electric bicycle.

507 | (9) A local government may provide training on the safe  
 508 | operation of electric bicycles and compliance with the traffic  
 509 | laws of this state that apply to electric bicycles.

510 | **Section 7. Subsections (7) and (8) are added to section**  
 511 | **316.2128, Florida Statutes, to read:**

512 | 316.2128 Micromobility devices, motorized scooters, and  
 513 | miniature motorcycles; requirements.—

514 | (7) A local government may adopt an ordinance providing  
 515 | one or more minimum age requirements to operate a motorized  
 516 | scooter or micromobility device and may adopt an ordinance  
 517 | requiring a person who operates a motorized scooter or  
 518 | micromobility device to possess a government-issued photographic  
 519 | identification while operating the motorized scooter or  
 520 | micromobility device.

521 | (8) A local government may provide training on the safe  
 522 | operation of motorized scooters and micromobility devices and  
 523 | compliance with the traffic laws of this state that apply to

524 motorized scooters and micromobility devices.

525 **Section 8. Effective upon this act becoming a law,**  
526 **paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 316.640, Florida**  
527 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

528 316.640 Enforcement.—The enforcement of the traffic laws  
529 of this state is vested as follows:

530 (1) STATE.—

531 (a)1.a. The Division of Florida Highway Patrol of the  
532 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; the Division of  
533 Law Enforcement of the Fish and Wildlife Conservation  
534 Commission; the Division of Law Enforcement of the Department of  
535 Environmental Protection; and the agents, inspectors, and  
536 officers of the Department of Law Enforcement each have  
537 authority to enforce all of the traffic laws of this state on  
538 all the streets and highways thereof and elsewhere throughout  
539 the state wherever the public has a right to travel by motor  
540 vehicle.

541 b. University police officers may enforce all of the  
542 traffic laws of this state when violations occur on or within  
543 1,000 feet of any property or facilities that are under the  
544 guidance, supervision, regulation, or control of a state  
545 university, a direct-support organization of such state  
546 university, or any other organization controlled by the state  
547 university or a direct-support organization of the state  
548 university, or when such violations occur within a specified

549 jurisdictional area as agreed upon in a mutual aid agreement  
550 entered into with a law enforcement agency pursuant to s.  
551 23.1225(1). Traffic laws may also be enforced off-campus when  
552 hot pursuit originates on or within 1,000 feet of any such  
553 property or facilities, or as agreed upon in accordance with the  
554 mutual aid agreement.

555 c. Florida College System institution police officers may  
556 enforce all the traffic laws of this state only when such  
557 violations occur on or within 1,000 feet of any property or  
558 facilities that are under the guidance, supervision, regulation,  
559 or control of the Florida College System institution, or when  
560 such violations occur within a specified jurisdictional area as  
561 agreed upon in a mutual aid agreement entered into with a law  
562 enforcement agency pursuant to s. 23.1225. Traffic laws may also  
563 be enforced off-campus when hot pursuit originates on or within  
564 1,000 feet of any such property or facilities, or as agreed upon  
565 in accordance with the mutual aid agreement.

566 d. Police officers employed by an airport authority may  
567 enforce all of the traffic laws of this state only when such  
568 violations occur on any property or facilities that are owned or  
569 operated by an airport authority.

570 (I) An airport authority may employ as a parking  
571 enforcement specialist any individual who successfully completes  
572 a training program established and approved by the Criminal  
573 Justice Standards and Training Commission for parking

574 enforcement specialists but who does not otherwise meet the  
575 uniform minimum standards established by the commission for law  
576 enforcement officers or auxiliary or part-time officers under s.  
577 943.12. This sub-sub-subparagraph may not be construed to permit  
578 the carrying of firearms or other weapons, nor shall such  
579 parking enforcement specialist have arrest authority.

580 (II) A parking enforcement specialist employed by an  
581 airport authority may enforce all state, county, and municipal  
582 laws and ordinances governing parking only when such violations  
583 are on property or facilities owned or operated by the airport  
584 authority employing the specialist, by appropriate state,  
585 county, or municipal traffic citation.

586 e. The Office of Agricultural Law Enforcement of the  
587 Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services may enforce  
588 traffic laws of this state.

589 f. School safety officers and school resource officers may  
590 enforce all of the traffic laws of this state when such  
591 violations occur on or about any property or facilities that are  
592 under the guidance, supervision, regulation, or control of the  
593 district school board, including violations of s. 316.172(1)(a)  
594 and (b) as recorded by a school bus infraction detection system  
595 pursuant to s. 316.173 on all roadways within the school  
596 district.

597 2. Any disciplinary action taken or performance evaluation  
598 conducted by an agency of the state as described in subparagraph

599 1. of a law enforcement officer's traffic enforcement activity  
600 must be in accordance with written work-performance standards.  
601 Such standards must be approved by the agency and any collective  
602 bargaining unit representing such law enforcement officer. A  
603 violation of this subparagraph is not subject to the penalties  
604 provided in chapter 318.

605 3. The Division of the Florida Highway Patrol may employ  
606 as a traffic accident investigation officer any individual who  
607 successfully completes instruction in traffic accident  
608 investigation and court presentation through the Selective  
609 Traffic Enforcement Program as approved by the Criminal Justice  
610 Standards and Training Commission and funded through the  
611 National Highway Traffic Safety Administration or a similar  
612 program approved by the commission, but who does not necessarily  
613 meet the uniform minimum standards established by the commission  
614 for law enforcement officers or auxiliary law enforcement  
615 officers under chapter 943. Any such traffic accident  
616 investigation officer who makes an investigation at the scene of  
617 a traffic accident may issue traffic citations, based upon  
618 personal investigation, when he or she has reasonable and  
619 probable grounds to believe that a person who was involved in  
620 the accident committed an offense under this chapter, chapter  
621 319, chapter 320, or chapter 322 in connection with the  
622 accident. This subparagraph does not permit the officer to carry

623 firearms or other weapons, and such an officer does not have  
 624 authority to make arrests.

625 **Section 9. Effective upon this act becoming a law,**  
 626 **paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 316.650, Florida**  
 627 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

628 316.650 Traffic citations.—

629 (3) (a) Except for a traffic citation issued pursuant to s.  
 630 316.1001, s. 316.0083, s. 316.173, or s. 316.1896, each traffic  
 631 enforcement officer, upon issuing a traffic citation to an  
 632 alleged violator of any provision of the motor vehicle laws of  
 633 this state or of any traffic ordinance of any municipality or  
 634 town, shall deposit the original traffic citation or, in the  
 635 case of a traffic enforcement agency that has an automated  
 636 citation issuance system, the agency ~~chief administrative~~  
 637 ~~officer~~ shall provide by an electronic transmission a replica of  
 638 the citation data to the ~~a~~ court having jurisdiction over the  
 639 alleged offense or with its traffic violations bureau within 5  
 640 business days after issuance to the violator.

641 **Section 10. Section 316.88, Florida Statutes, is created**  
 642 **to read:**

643 316.88 Creation of a wake on streets or highways.—A person  
 644 may not operate a motor vehicle, vessel, or any other conveyance  
 645 at a speed that creates an excessive wake on a flooded or  
 646 inundated street or highway.

647 **Section 11. Effective upon this act becoming a law,**

648 **paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of subsection (5) of section**  
649 **318.18, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

650 318.18 Amount of penalties.—The penalties required for a  
651 noncriminal disposition pursuant to s. 318.14 or a criminal  
652 offense listed in s. 318.17 are as follows:

653 (5) (a) 1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., \$200 ~~two~~  
654 ~~hundred dollars~~ for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a), failure to  
655 stop for a school bus. If, at a hearing, the alleged offender is  
656 found to have committed this offense, the court shall impose a  
657 minimum civil penalty of \$200. In addition to this penalty, for  
658 a second or subsequent offense within a period of 5 years, the  
659 department shall suspend the driver license of the person for  
660 not less than 180 days and not more than 1 year.

661 2. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(a) is enforced by a  
662 school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173, a  
663 civil penalty of \$200 shall be imposed. If, at an administrative  
664 hearing contesting a notice of violation or uniform traffic  
665 citation, the alleged offender is found to have committed the  
666 offense, a minimum civil penalty of \$200 shall be imposed.  
667 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the civil penalties  
668 assessed under this subparagraph resulting from a notice of  
669 violation or uniform traffic citation shall be remitted to the  
670 school district at least monthly and used pursuant to s.  
671 316.173(8).

672 (b)1. Except as provided in subparagraph 2., \$400 ~~four~~  
673 ~~hundred dollars~~ for a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b), passing a  
674 school bus on the side that children enter and exit when the  
675 school bus displays a stop signal. If, at a hearing, the alleged  
676 offender is found to have committed this offense, the court  
677 shall impose a minimum civil penalty of \$400.

678 2. If a violation of s. 316.172(1)(b) is enforced by a  
679 school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s. 316.173,  
680 the penalty under this subparagraph ~~paragraph~~ is a minimum of  
681 \$200. If, at a hearing contesting a notice of violation or  
682 uniform traffic citation, the alleged offender is found to have  
683 committed this offense, the court shall ~~must~~ impose a minimum  
684 civil penalty of \$200. Notwithstanding any other provision of  
685 law, the civil penalties assessed under this subparagraph  
686 resulting from notice of violation or uniform traffic citation  
687 shall be remitted to the school district at least monthly and  
688 used pursuant to s. 316.173(8).

689 3. In addition to this penalty, for a second or subsequent  
690 offense within a period of 5 years, the department shall suspend  
691 the driver license of the person for not less than 360 days and  
692 not more than 2 years.

693 (c)1. In addition to the civil penalty under subparagraph  
694 (a)2. or subparagraph (b)2., if, at an administrative hearing  
695 contesting a notice of violation, the alleged offender is found  
696 to have committed the offense, costs shall be imposed, not to

697 exceed those established in s. 316.0083(5) (e), to be paid by the  
698 petitioner and to be used by the school district for technology  
699 and operational costs relating to the hearing as well as school  
700 transportation safety-related initiatives.

701 2. In addition to the penalty under subparagraph (a)1. and  
702 2. or subparagraph (b)1. and 2. paragraph (a) or paragraph (b),  
703 \$65 for a violation of s. 316.172(1) (a) or (b). If the alleged  
704 offender is found to have committed the offense, the court shall  
705 impose the civil penalty under subparagraph (a)1. and 2. or  
706 subparagraph (b)1. and 2. paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) plus  
707 an additional \$65. The additional \$65 collected under this  
708 subparagraph paragraph shall be remitted to the Department of  
709 Revenue for deposit into the Emergency Medical Services Trust  
710 Fund of the Department of Health to be used as provided in s.  
711 395.4036. If a violation of s. 316.172(1) (a) or (b) is enforced  
712 by a school bus infraction detection system pursuant to s.  
713 316.173, the additional amount imposed on a notice of violation,  
714 on a uniform traffic citation, or by the court under this  
715 paragraph must be \$25, in lieu of the additional \$65, and,  
716 notwithstanding any other provision of law, the civil penalties  
717 and additional costs must be remitted to the participating  
718 school district at least monthly and used pursuant to s.  
719 316.173(8) s. 316.173(7).

720 **Section 12. Effective upon this act becoming a law,**  
721 **subsection (21) of section 318.21, Florida Statutes, is amended**

722 **to read:**

723 318.21 Disposition of civil penalties by county courts.—  
724 All civil penalties received by a county court pursuant to the  
725 provisions of this chapter shall be distributed and paid monthly  
726 as follows:

727 (21) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) or any other  
728 provision of law, the civil penalties and the proceeds from the  
729 additional penalties imposed pursuant to s. 318.18(5)(a)2.,  
730 (b)2., and (c) and (21) s. 318.18(5)(c) and (21) shall be  
731 distributed as provided in that section.

732 **Section 13. Section 320.0849, Florida Statutes, is created**

733 **to read:**

734 320.0849 Expectant mother parking permits.—

735 (1)(a) The department or its authorized agents shall, upon  
736 application, issue an expectant mother parking permit placard or  
737 decal to an expectant mother. The placard or decal is valid for  
738 up to 1 year after the date of issuance.

739 (b) The department shall, by rule, provide for the design,  
740 size, color, and placement of the expectant mother parking  
741 permit placard or decal. The placard or decal must be designed  
742 to conspicuously display the expiration date of the permit.

743 (2) An application for an expectant mother parking permit  
744 must include, but need not be limited to:

745 (a) Certification provided by a physician licensed under  
746 chapter 458 or chapter 459 that the applicant is an expectant

747 mother.

748 (b) The certifying physician's name and address.

749 (c) The physician's certification number.

750 (d) The following statement in bold letters: "An expectant  
 751 mother parking permit may be issued only to an expectant mother  
 752 and is valid for up to 1 year after the date of issuance."

753 (e) The signatures of:

754 1. The certifying physician.

755 2. The applicant.

756 3. The employee of the department processing the  
 757 application.

758 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an  
 759 expectant mother who is issued an expectant mother parking  
 760 permit under this section may park a motor vehicle in a parking  
 761 space designated for persons who have disabilities as provided  
 762 in s. 553.5041.

763 **Section 14. Section 330.355, Florida Statutes, is created**  
 764 **to read:**

765 330.355 Prohibition on landing fees for certain aircraft  
 766 operations.—A publicly owned airport in this state may not  
 767 charge a landing fee established on or after January 1, 2025,  
 768 for aircraft operations conducted by an accredited nonprofit  
 769 institution located in this state which offers a 4-year  
 770 collegiate aviation program, when such aircraft operations are

771 for flight training necessary for pilot certification and  
 772 proficiency.

773 **Section 15. Subsection (14) of section 331.3051, Florida**  
 774 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

775 331.3051 Duties of Space Florida.—Space Florida shall:  
 776 ~~(14) Partner with the Metropolitan Planning Organization~~  
 777 ~~Advisory Council to coordinate and specify how aerospace~~  
 778 ~~planning and programming will be part of the state's cooperative~~  
 779 ~~transportation planning process.~~

780 **Section 16. Subsection (6) of section 334.044, Florida**  
 781 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

782 334.044 Powers and duties of the department.—The  
 783 department shall have the following general powers and duties:  
 784 (6) To acquire, by the exercise of the power of eminent  
 785 domain as provided by law, all property or property rights,  
 786 whether public or private, which it may determine are necessary  
 787 to the performance of its duties and the execution of its  
 788 powers, including advance purchase of property or property  
 789 rights to preserve a corridor for future proposed improvements.

790 **Section 17. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 334.065,**  
 791 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

792 334.065 Center for Urban Transportation Research.—  
 793 (1) There is established within ~~at~~ the University of South  
 794 Florida the Florida Center for Urban Transportation Research, ~~to~~  
 795 ~~be administered by the Board of Governors of the State~~

796 ~~University System~~. The responsibilities of the center include,  
797 but are not limited to, conducting and facilitating research on  
798 issues related to urban transportation problems in this state  
799 and serving as an information exchange and depository for the  
800 most current information pertaining to urban transportation and  
801 related issues.

802 (3) An advisory board shall be created to periodically ~~and~~  
803 ~~objectively~~ review and advise the center concerning its research  
804 program. ~~Except for projects mandated by law, state-funded base~~  
805 ~~projects shall not be undertaken without approval of the~~  
806 ~~advisory board~~. The membership of the board shall consist of  
807 nine experts in transportation-related areas, as follows:

808 (a) A member appointed by the President of the Senate.

809 (b) A member appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
810 Representatives.

811 (c) The Secretary of Transportation or his or her  
812 designee.

813 (d) The Secretary of Commerce or his or her designee.  
814 ~~including the secretaries of the Department of Transportation,~~  
815 ~~the Department of Environmental Protection, and the Department~~  
816 ~~of Commerce, or their designees, and~~

817 (e) A member of the Florida Transportation Commission.

818 (f) Four members nominated by the University of South  
819 Florida's College of Engineering and approved by the  
820 university's president ~~The nomination of the remaining members~~

821 ~~of the board shall be made to the President of the University of~~  
822 ~~South Florida by the College of Engineering at the University of~~  
823 ~~South Florida, and the appointment of these members must be~~  
824 ~~reviewed and approved by the Florida Transportation Commission~~  
825 ~~and confirmed by the Board of Governors.~~

826 **Section 18. Section 334.63, Florida Statutes, is created**  
827 **to read:**

828 334.63 Project concept studies; project development and  
829 environmental studies.-

830 (1) All project concept studies and project development  
831 and environmental studies for capacity improvement projects on  
832 limited-access facilities must include the evaluation of  
833 alternatives that provide transportation capacity using elevated  
834 roadways above existing lanes.

835 (2) All project development and environmental studies for  
836 new alignment projects and new capacity improvement projects  
837 must be completed within 18 months after commencement to the  
838 maximum extent possible.

839 **Section 19. Subsections (4), (7), and (15) of section**  
840 **337.11, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

841 337.11 Contracting authority of department; bids;  
842 emergency repairs, supplemental agreements, and change orders;  
843 combined design and construction contracts; progress payments;  
844 records; requirements of vehicle registration.-

845 (4) (a) The department may award the proposed construction

846 and maintenance work to the lowest responsible bidder, or in the  
847 instance of a time-plus-money contract, the lowest evaluated  
848 responsible bidder, or it may reject all bids and proceed to  
849 rebid the work in accordance with subsection (2) or otherwise  
850 perform the work.

851 (b)1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
852 contrary, if the department intends to reject all bids on any  
853 project after announcing but before posting official notice of  
854 such intent, the department must provide to the lowest  
855 responsive and responsible bidder the opportunity to negotiate  
856 the scope of work with the corresponding reduction in price, as  
857 provided in the bid, to provide a reduced bid without filing a  
858 protest or posting a bond under paragraph (5) (a). Upon reaching  
859 a decision regarding such bidder's reduced bid, the department  
860 must post notice of final agency action to either reject all  
861 bids or accept the reduced bid.

862 2. This subsection does not prohibit the filing of a  
863 protest by any bidder or alter the deadlines in s. 120.57.

864 3. Notwithstanding ss. 120.57(3) (c) and 287.057(25), upon  
865 receipt of a timely filed formal written protest, the department  
866 may continue with the process provided for in this subsection  
867 but may not take final agency action as to the lowest responsive  
868 and responsible bidder, except as part of the department's final  
869 agency action in the protest or if the protesting party  
870 dismisses the protest.

871 (7) (a) If the department determines that it is in the best  
872 interests of the public, the department may combine the design  
873 and construction phases of a project into a single contract.  
874 Such contract is referred to as a design-build contract. For  
875 design-build contracts, the department must receive at least  
876 three letters of interest, and the department shall request  
877 proposals from no fewer than three of the design-build firms  
878 submitting such letters of interest. If a design-build firm  
879 withdraws from consideration after the department requests  
880 proposals, the department may continue if at least two proposals  
881 are received.

882 (b) If the department determines that it is in the best  
883 interests of the public, the department may combine the design  
884 and construction phases of a project fully funded in the work  
885 program into a single contract and select the design-build firm  
886 in the early stages of a project to ensure that the design-build  
887 firm is part of the collaboration and development of the design  
888 as part of a step-by-step progression through construction. Such  
889 a contract is referred to as a phased design-build contract. For  
890 phased design-build contracts, selection and award must include  
891 a two-phase process. For phase one, the department shall  
892 competitively award the contract to a design-build firm based  
893 upon qualifications, provided that the department has received  
894 at least three statements of qualifications from qualified  
895 design-build firms. If the department elects, during phase one,

896 to enter into contracts with more than one design-build firm  
897 based on qualifications, the department shall competitively  
898 select a single design-build firm to perform the work associated  
899 with phase two. For phase two, the design-build firm may  
900 independently perform portions of the work and shall  
901 competitively bid construction trade subcontractor packages and,  
902 based upon the design-build firm's estimates of its  
903 independently performed work and these bids, negotiate with the  
904 department a ~~fixed firm price or~~ guaranteed maximum price that  
905 meets the project budget and scope as advertised in the request  
906 for qualifications.

907 ~~(c) Design-build contracts and phased design-build~~  
908 ~~contracts may be advertised and awarded notwithstanding the~~  
909 ~~requirements of paragraph (3)(c). However, construction~~  
910 ~~activities may not begin on any portion of such projects for~~  
911 ~~which the department has not yet obtained title to the necessary~~  
912 ~~rights-of-way and easements for the construction of that portion~~  
913 ~~of the project has vested in the state or a local governmental~~  
914 ~~entity and all railroad crossing and utility agreements have~~  
915 ~~been executed. Title to rights-of-way shall be deemed to have~~  
916 ~~vested in the state when the title has been dedicated to the~~  
917 ~~public or acquired by prescription.~~

918 (c)(d) The department shall adopt by rule procedures for  
919 administering design-build and phased design-build contracts.  
920 Such procedures shall include, but not be limited to:

- 921 1. Prequalification requirements.
- 922 2. Public announcement procedures.
- 923 3. Scope of service requirements.
- 924 4. Letters of interest requirements.
- 925 5. Short-listing criteria and procedures.
- 926 6. Bid proposal requirements.
- 927 7. Technical review committee.
- 928 8. Selection and award processes.
- 929 9. Stipend requirements.

930 (d)~~(e)~~ For ~~design-build contracts and~~ phased design-build  
 931 contracts, the department must receive at least three letters of  
 932 interest, and ~~in order to proceed with a request for proposals.~~  
 933 the department shall request proposals from no fewer than three  
 934 of the design-build firms submitting such letters of interest.  
 935 If a design-build firm withdraws from consideration after the  
 936 department requests proposals, the department may continue if at  
 937 least two proposals are received.

938 (15) Each contract let by the department for performance  
 939 of bridge construction or maintenance on ~~over~~ navigable waters  
 940 must contain a provision requiring marine general liability  
 941 insurance, including protection and indemnity coverage, in an  
 942 amount to be determined by the department, which covers third-  
 943 party personal injury and property damage caused by vessels used  
 944 by the contractor in the performance of the work. Protection and  
 945 indemnity coverage may be covered by endorsement on the marine

946 general liability insurance policy or may be a separate policy.

947 **Section 20. Subsections (1), (2), and (8) of section**  
948 **337.14, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

949 337.14 Application for qualification; certificate of  
950 qualification; restrictions; request for hearing.—

951 (1) (a) ~~A Any~~ contractor desiring to bid for the  
952 performance of a ~~any~~ construction contract in excess of \$250,000  
953 which the department proposes to let must first be certified by  
954 the department as qualified pursuant to this section and rules  
955 of the department. The rules of the department must address the  
956 qualification of contractors to bid on construction contracts in  
957 excess of \$250,000 and must include requirements with respect to  
958 the equipment, past record, experience, financial resources, and  
959 organizational personnel of the applying contractor which are  
960 necessary to perform the specific class of work for which the  
961 contractor seeks certification.

962 (b) ~~A Any~~ contractor who desires to bid on contracts in  
963 excess of \$50 million and who is not qualified and in good  
964 standing with the department as of January 1, 2019, must first  
965 be certified by the department as qualified and must have  
966 satisfactorily completed two projects, each in excess of \$15  
967 million, for the department or for any other state department of  
968 transportation.

969 (c) The department may limit the dollar amount of any  
970 contract upon which a contractor is qualified to bid or the

971 aggregate total dollar volume of contracts such contractor is  
972 allowed to have under contract at any one time.

973 (d)1. Each applying contractor seeking qualification to  
974 bid on construction contracts in excess of \$250,000 shall  
975 furnish the department a statement under oath, on such forms as  
976 the department may prescribe, setting forth detailed information  
977 as required on the application.

978 2. Each application for certification must be accompanied  
979 by audited, certified financial statements prepared in  
980 accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and  
981 auditing standards by a certified public accountant licensed in  
982 this state or another state. The audited, certified financial  
983 statements must be for the applying contractor and must have  
984 been prepared within the immediately preceding 12 months.

985 3. The department may not consider any financial  
986 information of the parent entity of the applying contractor, if  
987 any.

988 4. The department may not certify as qualified any  
989 applying contractor who fails to submit the audited, certified  
990 financial statements required by this subsection.

991 5. If the application or the annual financial statement  
992 shows the financial condition of the applying contractor more  
993 than 4 months before the date on which the application is  
994 received by the department, the applicant must also submit  
995 interim audited, certified financial statements prepared in

996 accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and  
997 auditing standards by a certified public accountant licensed in  
998 this state or another state. The interim financial statements  
999 must cover the period from the end date of the annual statement  
1000 and must show the financial condition of the applying contractor  
1001 no more than 4 months before the date that the interim financial  
1002 statements are received by the department. However, upon the  
1003 request of the applying contractor, an application and  
1004 accompanying annual or interim financial statement received by  
1005 the department within 15 days after either 4-month period under  
1006 this subsection shall be considered timely.

1007 6. An applying contractor desiring to bid exclusively for  
1008 the performance of construction contracts with proposed budget  
1009 estimates of less than \$2 million may submit reviewed annual or  
1010 reviewed interim financial statements prepared by a certified  
1011 public accountant.

1012 (e) The information required by this subsection is  
1013 confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1).

1014 (f) The department shall act upon the application for  
1015 qualification within 30 days after the department determines  
1016 that the application is complete.

1017 (g) The department may waive the requirements of this  
1018 subsection for:

1019 1. A push-button contract or a task work order contract  
1020 that has a contract price of \$1 million or less; or

1021 2. A project that has ~~projects having~~ a contract price of  
 1022 \$500,000 or less if the department determines that the project  
 1023 is of a noncritical nature and the waiver will not endanger  
 1024 public health, safety, or property.

1025 (2) Certification shall be necessary in order to bid on a  
 1026 road, bridge, or public transportation construction contract of  
 1027 more than \$250,000. However, the successful bidder on any  
 1028 construction contract must furnish a contract bond before ~~prior~~  
 1029 ~~to~~ the award of the contract. The department may waive the  
 1030 requirement for all or a portion of a contract bond for  
 1031 contracts of \$250,000 ~~\$150,000~~ or less under s. 337.18(1).

1032 (8) This section does not apply to maintenance contracts.  
 1033 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a contractor seeking  
 1034 to bid on a maintenance contract for which the majority of the  
 1035 work includes repair and replacement of safety appurtenances,  
 1036 including, but not limited to, guardrails, attenuators, traffic  
 1037 signals, and striping, must possess the prescribed  
 1038 qualifications, equipment, past record, and experience required  
 1039 to perform such work.

1040 **Section 21. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 337.185,**  
 1041 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1042 337.185 State Arbitration Board.—

1043 (4) The contractor may submit a claim greater than  
 1044 \$250,000 up to \$2 million ~~\$1 million~~ per contract or, upon  
 1045 agreement of the parties, greater than ~~up to~~ \$2 million per

1046 contract to be arbitrated by the board. An award issued by the  
 1047 board pursuant to this subsection is final if a request for a  
 1048 trial de novo is not filed within the time provided by Rule  
 1049 1.830, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure. At the trial de novo,  
 1050 the court may not admit evidence that there has been an  
 1051 arbitration proceeding, the nature or amount of the award, or  
 1052 any other matter concerning the conduct of the arbitration  
 1053 proceeding, except that sworn testimony given in connection with  
 1054 ~~at~~ an arbitration hearing may be used for any purpose otherwise  
 1055 permitted by the Florida Evidence Code. If a request for trial  
 1056 de novo is not filed within the time provided, the award issued  
 1057 by the board is final and enforceable by a court of law.

1058 (5) An arbitration request may not be made to the board  
 1059 before final acceptance but must be made to the board within 820  
 1060 days after final acceptance or within 360 days after written  
 1061 notice by the department of a claim related to a written  
 1062 warranty or defect after final acceptance, whichever is later.

1063 **Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 337.19, Florida**  
 1064 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1065 337.19 Suits by and against department; limitation of  
 1066 actions; forum.—

1067 (2) Suits by and against the department under this section  
 1068 shall be commenced within 820 days after ~~of~~ the final acceptance  
 1069 of the work or within 360 days after written notice by the  
 1070 department of a claim related to a written warranty or defect

1071 after final acceptance, whichever is later. ~~This section shall~~  
1072 ~~apply to all contracts entered into after June 30, 1993.~~

1073 **Section 23. Subsection (10) of section 339.175, Florida**  
1074 **Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (11), subsection (1),**  
1075 **paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraphs (b), (i), and (j) of**  
1076 **subsection (6), paragraphs (a), (b), and (d) of subsection (7),**  
1077 **and present subsection (11) are amended, and a new subsection**  
1078 **(10) is added to that section, to read:**

1079 339.175 Metropolitan planning organization.—

1080 (1) PURPOSE.—It is the intent of the Legislature to  
1081 encourage and promote the safe and efficient management,  
1082 operation, and development of multimodal ~~surface~~ transportation  
1083 systems that will serve the mobility needs of people and freight  
1084 and foster economic growth and development within and through  
1085 urbanized areas of this state in accordance with the  
1086 department's mission statement ~~while minimizing transportation-~~  
1087 ~~related fuel consumption, air pollution, and greenhouse gas~~  
1088 ~~emissions through metropolitan transportation planning processes~~  
1089 ~~identified in this section.~~ To accomplish these objectives,  
1090 metropolitan planning organizations, referred to in this section  
1091 as M.P.O.'s, shall develop, in cooperation with the state and  
1092 public transit operators, transportation plans and programs for  
1093 metropolitan areas. The plans and programs for each metropolitan  
1094 area must provide for the development and integrated management  
1095 and operation of transportation systems and facilities,

1096 including pedestrian walkways and bicycle transportation  
1097 facilities that will function as an intermodal transportation  
1098 system for the metropolitan area, based upon the prevailing  
1099 principles provided in s. 334.046(1). The process for developing  
1100 such plans and programs shall provide for consideration of all  
1101 modes of transportation and shall be continuing, cooperative,  
1102 and comprehensive, to the degree appropriate, based on the  
1103 complexity of the transportation problems to be addressed. To  
1104 ensure that the process is integrated with the statewide  
1105 planning process, M.P.O.'s shall develop plans and programs that  
1106 identify transportation facilities that should function as an  
1107 integrated metropolitan transportation system, giving emphasis  
1108 to facilities that serve important national, state, and regional  
1109 transportation functions. For the purposes of this section,  
1110 those facilities include the facilities on the Strategic  
1111 Intermodal System designated under s. 339.63 and facilities for  
1112 which projects have been identified pursuant to s. 339.2819(4).

1113 (2) DESIGNATION.—

1114 (a)1. An M.P.O. shall be designated for each urbanized  
1115 area of the state; however, this does not require that an  
1116 individual M.P.O. be designated for each such area. Such  
1117 designation shall be accomplished by agreement between the  
1118 Governor and units of general-purpose local government  
1119 representing at least 75 percent of the population of the  
1120 urbanized area; however, the unit of general-purpose local

1121 government that represents the central city or cities within the  
1122 M.P.O. jurisdiction, as defined by the United States Bureau of  
1123 the Census, must be a party to such agreement.

1124 2. To the extent possible, only one M.P.O. shall be  
1125 designated for each urbanized area or group of contiguous  
1126 urbanized areas. More than one M.P.O. may be designated within  
1127 an existing urbanized area only if the Governor and the existing  
1128 M.P.O. determine that the size and complexity of the existing  
1129 urbanized area makes the designation of more than one M.P.O. for  
1130 the area appropriate. After July 1, 2025, no additional M.P.O.'s  
1131 may be designated in this state except in urbanized areas, as  
1132 defined by the United States Bureau of the Census, where the  
1133 urbanized area boundary is not contiguous to an urbanized area  
1134 designated before the 2020 census, in which case each M.P.O.  
1135 designated for the area must:

1136 a. ~~Consult with every other M.P.O. designated for the~~  
1137 ~~urbanized area and the state to coordinate plans and~~  
1138 ~~transportation improvement programs.~~

1139 b. ~~Ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, the~~  
1140 ~~consistency of data used in the planning process, including data~~  
1141 ~~used in forecasting travel demand within the urbanized area.~~

1142  
1143 Each M.P.O. required under this section must be fully operative  
1144 no later than 6 months following its designation.

1145 (6) POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—The powers,

1146 | privileges, and authority of an M.P.O. are those specified in  
1147 | this section or incorporated in an interlocal agreement  
1148 | authorized under s. 163.01. Each M.P.O. shall perform all acts  
1149 | required by federal or state laws or rules, now and subsequently  
1150 | applicable, which are necessary to qualify for federal aid. It  
1151 | is the intent of this section that each M.P.O. be involved in  
1152 | the planning and programming of transportation facilities,  
1153 | including, but not limited to, airports, intercity and high-  
1154 | speed rail lines, seaports, and intermodal facilities, to the  
1155 | extent permitted by state or federal law. An M.P.O. may not  
1156 | perform project production or delivery for capital improvement  
1157 | projects on the State Highway System.

1158 |       (b) In developing the long-range transportation plan and  
1159 | the transportation improvement program required under paragraph  
1160 | (a), each M.P.O. shall provide for consideration of projects and  
1161 | strategies that will:

1162 |       1. Support the economic vitality of the contiguous  
1163 | urbanized metropolitan area, especially by enabling global  
1164 | competitiveness, productivity, and efficiency.

1165 |       2. Increase the safety and security of the transportation  
1166 | system for motorized and nonmotorized users.

1167 |       3. Increase the accessibility and mobility options  
1168 | available to people and for freight.

1169 |       4. Protect and enhance the environment, conserve natural  
1170 | resources ~~promote energy conservation~~, and improve quality of

1171 life.

1172 5. Enhance the integration and connectivity of the  
1173 transportation system, across and between modes and contiguous  
1174 urbanized metropolitan areas, for people and freight.

1175 6. Promote efficient system management and operation.

1176 7. Emphasize the preservation of the existing  
1177 transportation system.

1178 8. Improve the resilience of transportation  
1179 infrastructure.

1180 9. Reduce traffic and congestion.

1181 ~~(i) By December 31, 2023, the M.P.O.'s serving~~  
1182 ~~Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties must submit a~~  
1183 ~~feasibility report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,~~  
1184 ~~and the Speaker of the House of Representatives exploring the~~  
1185 ~~benefits, costs, and process of consolidation into a single~~  
1186 ~~M.P.O. serving the contiguous urbanized area, the goal of which~~  
1187 ~~would be to:~~

1188 ~~1. Coordinate transportation projects deemed to be~~  
1189 ~~regionally significant.~~

1190 ~~2. Review the impact of regionally significant land use~~  
1191 ~~decisions on the region.~~

1192 ~~3. Review all proposed regionally significant~~  
1193 ~~transportation projects in the transportation improvement~~  
1194 ~~programs.~~

1195 (i)(j)1. To more fully accomplish the purposes for which

1196 M.P.O.'s have been mandated, the department shall, at least  
1197 annually, convene M.P.O.'s for the purpose of exchanging best  
1198 practices. M.P.O.'s may ~~shall~~ develop committees or working  
1199 groups as needed to accomplish such purpose. Training for new  
1200 M.P.O. governing board members shall be provided by the  
1201 department or, at the discretion of the department, by an entity  
1202 pursuant to a contract with the department, by the Florida  
1203 Center for Urban Transportation Research, or by the Implementing  
1204 Solutions from Transportation Research and Evaluation of  
1205 Emerging Technologies (I-STREET) living lab ~~coordination~~  
1206 ~~mechanisms with one another to expand and improve transportation~~  
1207 ~~within the state. The appropriate method of coordination between~~  
1208 ~~M.P.O.'s shall vary depending upon the project involved and~~  
1209 ~~given local and regional needs. Consequently, it is appropriate~~  
1210 ~~to set forth a flexible methodology that can be used by M.P.O.'s~~  
1211 ~~to coordinate with other M.P.O.'s and appropriate political~~  
1212 ~~subdivisions as circumstances demand.~~

1213 2. Any M.P.O. may join with any other M.P.O. or any  
1214 individual political subdivision to coordinate activities or to  
1215 achieve any federal or state transportation planning or  
1216 development goals or purposes consistent with federal or state  
1217 law. When an M.P.O. determines that it is appropriate to join  
1218 with another M.P.O. or any political subdivision to coordinate  
1219 activities, the M.P.O. or political subdivision shall enter into  
1220 an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01, which, at a

1221 minimum, creates a separate legal or administrative entity to  
1222 coordinate the transportation planning or development activities  
1223 required to achieve the goal or purpose; provides the purpose  
1224 for which the entity is created; provides the duration of the  
1225 agreement and the entity and specifies how the agreement may be  
1226 terminated, modified, or rescinded; describes the precise  
1227 organization of the entity, including who has voting rights on  
1228 the governing board, whether alternative voting members are  
1229 provided for, how voting members are appointed, and what the  
1230 relative voting strength is for each constituent M.P.O. or  
1231 political subdivision; provides the manner in which the parties  
1232 to the agreement will provide for the financial support of the  
1233 entity and payment of costs and expenses of the entity; provides  
1234 the manner in which funds may be paid to and disbursed from the  
1235 entity; and provides how members of the entity will resolve  
1236 disagreements regarding interpretation of the interlocal  
1237 agreement or disputes relating to the operation of the entity.  
1238 Such interlocal agreement shall become effective upon its  
1239 recordation in the official public records of each county in  
1240 which a member of the entity created by the interlocal agreement  
1241 has a voting member. Multiple M.P.O.'s may merge, combine, or  
1242 otherwise join together as a single M.P.O.

1243 (7) LONG-RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN.—Each M.P.O. must  
1244 develop a long-range transportation plan that addresses at least  
1245 a 20-year planning horizon. The plan must include both long-

1246 range and short-range strategies and must comply with all other  
1247 state and federal requirements. The prevailing principles to be  
1248 considered in the long-range transportation plan are: preserving  
1249 the existing transportation infrastructure; enhancing Florida's  
1250 economic competitiveness; and improving travel choices to ensure  
1251 mobility. The long-range transportation plan must be consistent,  
1252 to the maximum extent feasible, with future land use elements  
1253 and the goals, objectives, and policies of the approved local  
1254 government comprehensive plans of the units of local government  
1255 located within the jurisdiction of the M.P.O. Each M.P.O. is  
1256 encouraged to consider strategies that integrate transportation  
1257 and land use planning to provide for sustainable development and  
1258 reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The approved long-range  
1259 transportation plan must be considered by local governments in  
1260 the development of the transportation elements in local  
1261 government comprehensive plans and any amendments thereto. The  
1262 long-range transportation plan must, at a minimum:

1263 (a) Identify transportation facilities, including, but not  
1264 limited to, major roadways, airports, seaports, spaceports,  
1265 commuter rail systems, transit systems, and intermodal or  
1266 multimodal terminals that will function as an integrated  
1267 metropolitan transportation system. The long-range  
1268 transportation plan must give emphasis to those transportation  
1269 facilities that serve national, statewide, or regional  
1270 functions, and must consider the goals and objectives identified

1271 in the Florida Transportation Plan as provided in s. 339.155. If  
1272 a project is located within the boundaries of more than one  
1273 M.P.O., the M.P.O.'s must coordinate plans regarding the project  
1274 in the long-range transportation plan. ~~Multiple M.P.O.'s within~~  
1275 ~~a contiguous urbanized area must coordinate the development of~~  
1276 ~~long range transportation plans to be reviewed by the~~  
1277 ~~Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council.~~

1278 (b) Include a financial plan that demonstrates how the  
1279 plan can be implemented, indicating resources from public and  
1280 private sources which are reasonably expected to be available to  
1281 carry out the plan, and recommends any additional financing  
1282 strategies for needed projects and programs. The financial plan  
1283 may include, for illustrative purposes, additional projects that  
1284 would be included in the adopted long-range transportation plan  
1285 if reasonable additional resources beyond those identified in  
1286 the financial plan were available. For the purpose of developing  
1287 the long-range transportation plan, the M.P.O. and the  
1288 department shall cooperatively develop estimates of funds that  
1289 will be available to support the plan implementation. Innovative  
1290 financing techniques may be used to fund needed projects and  
1291 programs. Such techniques may include the assessment of tolls,  
1292 public-private partnerships, the use of value capture financing,  
1293 or the use of value pricing. Multiple M.P.O.'s within a  
1294 contiguous urbanized area must ensure, to the maximum extent  
1295 possible, the consistency of data used in the planning process.

1296 (d) Indicate, as appropriate, proposed transportation  
1297 enhancement activities, including, but not limited to,  
1298 pedestrian and bicycle facilities, trails or facilities that are  
1299 regionally significant or critical linkages for the Florida  
1300 Shared-Use Nonmotorized Trail Network, scenic easements,  
1301 landscaping, integration of advanced air mobility, and  
1302 integration of autonomous and electric vehicles, electric  
1303 bicycles, and motorized scooters used for freight, commuter, or  
1304 micromobility purposes ~~historic preservation, mitigation of~~  
1305 ~~water pollution due to highway runoff, and control of outdoor~~  
1306 ~~advertising.~~

1307  
1308 In the development of its long-range transportation plan, each  
1309 M.P.O. must provide the public, affected public agencies,  
1310 representatives of transportation agency employees, freight  
1311 shippers, providers of freight transportation services, private  
1312 providers of transportation, representatives of users of public  
1313 transit, and other interested parties with a reasonable  
1314 opportunity to comment on the long-range transportation plan.  
1315 The long-range transportation plan must be approved by the  
1316 M.P.O.

1317 (10) AGREEMENTS; ACCOUNTABILITY.—

1318 (a) Each M.P.O. may execute a written agreement with the  
1319 department, which shall be reviewed, and updated as necessary,  
1320 every 5 years, which clearly establishes the cooperative

1321 relationship essential to accomplish the transportation planning  
1322 requirements of state and federal law. Roles, responsibilities,  
1323 and expectations for accomplishing consistency with federal and  
1324 state requirements and priorities must be set forth in the  
1325 agreement. In addition, the agreement must set forth the  
1326 M.P.O.'s responsibility, in collaboration with the department,  
1327 to identify, prioritize, and present to the department a  
1328 complete list of multimodal transportation projects consistent  
1329 with the needs of the metropolitan planning area. It is the  
1330 department's responsibility to schedule projects in the state  
1331 transportation improvement program, in collaboration with the  
1332 M.P.O.'s, considering the annual M.P.O. list of priority  
1333 projects, as available funding allows.

1334 (b) The department must establish, in collaboration with  
1335 each M.P.O., quality performance metrics such as safety,  
1336 infrastructure condition, congestion relief, and mobility. Each  
1337 M.P.O. must, as part of its long-range transportation plan, in  
1338 direct coordination with the department, develop targets for  
1339 each performance measure within the metropolitan planning area  
1340 boundary. The performance targets must support efficient and  
1341 safe movement of people and goods both within the metropolitan  
1342 planning area and between regions. Each M.P.O. must report  
1343 progress toward establishing performance targets for each  
1344 measure annually in its transportation improvement plan. The  
1345 department shall evaluate and post on its website whether each

1346 M.P.O. has made significant progress toward its target for the  
1347 applicable reporting period.

1348 ~~(11) METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION ADVISORY COUNCIL.—~~

1349 ~~(a) A Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory Council~~  
1350 ~~is created to augment, and not supplant, the role of the~~  
1351 ~~individual M.P.O.'s in the cooperative transportation planning~~  
1352 ~~process described in this section.~~

1353 ~~(b) The council shall consist of one representative from~~  
1354 ~~each M.P.O. and shall elect a chairperson annually from its~~  
1355 ~~number. Each M.P.O. shall also elect an alternate representative~~  
1356 ~~from each M.P.O. to vote in the absence of the representative.~~  
1357 ~~Members of the council do not receive any compensation for their~~  
1358 ~~services, but may be reimbursed from funds made available to~~  
1359 ~~council members for travel and per diem expenses incurred in the~~  
1360 ~~performance of their council duties as provided in s. 112.061.~~

1361 ~~(c) The powers and duties of the Metropolitan Planning~~  
1362 ~~Organization Advisory Council are to:~~

1363 ~~1. Establish bylaws by action of its governing board~~  
1364 ~~providing procedural rules to guide its proceedings and~~  
1365 ~~consideration of matters before the council, or, alternatively,~~  
1366 ~~adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement~~  
1367 ~~provisions of law conferring powers or duties upon it.~~

1368 ~~2. Assist M.P.O.'s in carrying out the urbanized area~~  
1369 ~~transportation planning process by serving as the principal~~  
1370 ~~forum for collective policy discussion pursuant to law.~~

1371 ~~3. Serve as a clearinghouse for review and comment by~~  
1372 ~~M.P.O.'s on the Florida Transportation Plan and on other issues~~  
1373 ~~required to comply with federal or state law in carrying out the~~  
1374 ~~urbanized area transportation and systematic planning processes~~  
1375 ~~instituted pursuant to s. 339.155. The council must also report~~  
1376 ~~annually to the Florida Transportation Commission on the~~  
1377 ~~alignment of M.P.O. long-range transportation plans with the~~  
1378 ~~Florida Transportation Plan.~~

1379 ~~4. Employ an executive director and such other staff as~~  
1380 ~~necessary to perform adequately the functions of the council,~~  
1381 ~~within budgetary limitations. The executive director and staff~~  
1382 ~~are exempt from part II of chapter 110 and serve at the~~  
1383 ~~direction and control of the council. The council is assigned to~~  
1384 ~~the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Transportation~~  
1385 ~~for fiscal and accountability purposes, but it shall otherwise~~  
1386 ~~function independently of the control and direction of the~~  
1387 ~~department.~~

1388 ~~5. Deliver training on federal and state program~~  
1389 ~~requirements and procedures to M.P.O. board members and M.P.O.~~  
1390 ~~staff.~~

1391 ~~6. Adopt an agency strategic plan that prioritizes steps~~  
1392 ~~the agency will take to carry out its mission within the context~~  
1393 ~~of the state comprehensive plan and any other statutory mandates~~  
1394 ~~and directives.~~

1395 ~~(d) The Metropolitan Planning Organization Advisory~~

1396 ~~Council may enter into contracts in accordance with chapter 287~~  
1397 ~~to support the activities described in paragraph (c). Lobbying~~  
1398 ~~and the acceptance of funds, grants, assistance, gifts, or~~  
1399 ~~bequests from private, local, state, or federal sources are~~  
1400 ~~prohibited.~~

1401 **Section 24. Subsection (4) of section 339.65, Florida**  
1402 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1403 339.65 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridors.—

1404 (4) The department shall develop and maintain a plan of  
1405 Strategic Intermodal System highway corridor projects that are  
1406 anticipated to be let to contract for construction within a time  
1407 period of at least 20 years. The department, in collaboration  
1408 with each M.P.O., shall prioritize projects that address gaps in  
1409 a corridor so that the corridor becomes contiguous. The plan  
1410 shall also identify when segments of the corridor will meet the  
1411 standards and criteria developed pursuant to subsection (5).

1412 **Section 25. Section 339.84, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1413 **to read:**

1414 339.84 Workforce development.—

1415 (1) Beginning in the 2023-2024 fiscal year and annually  
1416 thereafter for 5 years, \$5 million shall be allocated from the  
1417 State Transportation Trust Fund to the workforce development  
1418 program as provided in s. 334.044(35) to promote career paths in  
1419 Florida's road and bridge industry.

1420 (2) In fiscal years 2025-2026 through 2029-2030, the

1421 department may expend up to \$5 million each fiscal year for  
1422 grants to Florida College System institutions and high schools  
1423 for the purchase of equipment simulators with authentic original  
1424 equipment manufacturer controls. Each grant recipient must offer  
1425 an elective course in heavy civil construction the curriculum of  
1426 which is specifically designed to use an equipment simulator and  
1427 other instructional aides to, at a minimum, provide the student  
1428 with OSHA 10 Construction certification and an equipment  
1429 simulator certification. In awarding such grants, the department  
1430 shall give priority to Florida College System institutions and  
1431 high schools in rural communities as defined in s. 288.0656(2).

1432 **Section 26. Section 339.85, Florida Statutes, is created**  
1433 **to read:**

1434 339.85 Next-generation Traffic Signal Modernization  
1435 Program.—The department shall implement the Next-generation  
1436 Traffic Signal Modernization Program. The purpose of the program  
1437 is to increase traffic signal interconnectivity and provide  
1438 real-time traffic optimization to improve traffic flow and  
1439 enhance safety. The program shall:

1440 (1) Provide for retrofitting existing traffic signals and  
1441 controllers and providing a communication backbone for remote  
1442 and automated operations and management of such signals on the  
1443 State Highway System and the nonstate highway system.

1444 (2) Prioritize signal upgrades based on average annual  
1445 daily traffic and the impact of adding to an existing

1446 interconnected system.

1447 (3) Use at least one advanced traffic management platform  
1448 that uses state-of-the-art technology and that complies with  
1449 leading cybersecurity standards, such as SOC 2 and ISO 27001,  
1450 ensuring robust data protection.

1451 **Section 27. Paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section**  
1452 **331.310, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1453 331.310 Powers and duties of the board of directors.—

1454 (2) The board of directors shall:

1455 (e) Prepare an annual report of operations as a supplement  
1456 to the annual report required under s. 331.3051(15) ~~s.~~  
1457 ~~331.3051(16)~~. The report must include, but not be limited to, a  
1458 balance sheet, an income statement, a statement of changes in  
1459 financial position, a reconciliation of changes in equity  
1460 accounts, a summary of significant accounting principles, the  
1461 auditor's report, a summary of the status of existing and  
1462 proposed bonding projects, comments from management about the  
1463 year's business, and prospects for the next year.

1464 **Section 28.** The Legislature finds that the widening of  
1465 that portion of Interstate 4 between U.S. Highway 27 in Polk  
1466 County and Interstate 75 in Hillsborough County is in the public  
1467 interest and in the strategic interest of the region to improve  
1468 the movement of people and goods. The Department of  
1469 Transportation shall develop a report that includes, but is not  
1470 limited to, detailed costs for project development and

1471 environmental studies, design, acquisition of rights-of-way, and  
1472 construction and a schedule to complete the widening as  
1473 expeditiously as possible. Such report shall identify funding  
1474 shortfalls and strategies to address such shortfalls, including,  
1475 but not limited to, using express lane toll revenues generated  
1476 on the Interstate 4 corridor and other available department  
1477 funds for public-private partnerships. The department shall  
1478 submit the report by December 31, 2025, to the Governor, the  
1479 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
1480 Representatives.

1481 **Section 29.** By October 31, 2025, the Department of  
1482 Transportation shall submit to the Governor, the President of  
1483 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a  
1484 report that provides a comprehensive review of the boundaries of  
1485 each of the department's districts and whether any district's  
1486 boundaries should be redrawn as a result of population growth  
1487 and increased urban density.

1488 **Section 30. Section 332.136, Florida Statutes, is created**  
1489 **to read:**

1490 332.136 Sarasota Manatee Airport Authority; airport pilot  
1491 program.—

1492 (1) There is established at the Sarasota Manatee Airport  
1493 Authority (SMAA) an airport pilot program. The purpose of the  
1494 pilot program is to determine the long-term feasibility of  
1495 alternative airport permitting procedures such as those provided

1496 in ss. 553.80, 1013.30, 1013.33, and 1013.371.

1497 (2) The department shall adopt rules as necessary to  
 1498 implement the pilot program.

1499 (3) By December 1, 2027, the department shall submit  
 1500 recommendations to the President of the Senate and the Speaker  
 1501 of the House of Representatives about how to expand the pilot  
 1502 program to additional airports, amend the pilot program to  
 1503 increase its effectiveness, or terminate the pilot program.

1504 (4) This section shall stand repealed on June 30, 2028,  
 1505 unless reviewed and saved from appeal through reenactment by the  
 1506 Legislature.

1507 **Section 31. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section**  
 1508 **348.0304, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1509 348.0304 Greater Miami Expressway Agency.—

1510 (3) (a) The governing body of the agency shall consist of  
 1511 nine voting members. Except for the district secretary of the  
 1512 department, each member must be a permanent resident of a county  
 1513 served by the agency and may not hold, or have held in the  
 1514 previous 2 years, elected or appointed office in such county,  
 1515 except that this paragraph does not apply to any initial  
 1516 appointment under paragraph (b) or to any member who previously  
 1517 served on the governing body of the former Greater Miami  
 1518 Expressway Agency. Each member may only serve two terms of 4  
 1519 years each, except that there is no restriction on the term of  
 1520 the department's district secretary. Four members, each of whom

1521 must be a permanent resident of Miami-Dade County, shall be  
1522 appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate  
1523 at the next regular session of the Legislature. Refusal or  
1524 failure of the Senate to confirm an appointment shall create a  
1525 vacancy. Appointments made by the Governor and board of county  
1526 commissioners of Miami-Dade County shall reflect the state's  
1527 interests in the transportation sector and represent the intent,  
1528 duties, and purpose of the Greater Miami Expressway Agency, and  
1529 have at least 3 years of professional experience in one or more  
1530 of the following areas: finance; land use planning; tolling  
1531 industry; or transportation engineering. Two members, who must  
1532 be residents of an unincorporated portion of the geographic area  
1533 described in subsection (1) and residing within 15 miles of an  
1534 ~~area with the highest amount of agency toll~~ road roads, shall be  
1535 appointed by the board of county commissioners of Miami-Dade  
1536 County. Two members, who must be residents of incorporated  
1537 municipalities within a county served by the agency, shall be  
1538 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization for a county  
1539 served by the agency. The district secretary of the department  
1540 serving in the district that contains Miami-Dade County shall  
1541 serve as an ex officio voting member of the governing body.

1542 **Section 32.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
1543 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
1544 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,  
1545 2025.