

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to intergovernmental cooperation;
3 amending s. 163.01, F.S.; revising the definition of
4 the term "electric utility"; authorizing certain
5 parties to an interlocal agreement to conduct public
6 meetings and workshops by means of communications
7 media technology; providing notice requirements;
8 providing a definition; providing legislative intent
9 that electric utilities included in the revision to
10 the definition of the term "electric utility" may
11 exercise the powers and authority granted by ch. 163,
12 F.S.; providing legislative intent that the revision
13 is enacted in furtherance of and is consistent with
14 the application of the Joint Power Act; providing an
15 effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (3) of section
20 163.01, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (18) is
21 added to that section, to read:

22 163.01 Florida Interlocal Cooperation Act of 1969.—

23 (3) As used in this section:

24 (f) "Electric utility" has the same meaning as in s.
25 361.11(2). The term also includes those municipalities,
26 authorities, commissions, special districts, or other public
27 bodies that own, maintain, or operate an electrical generation,
28 transmission, or distribution system within the state on June

29 25, 2008.

30 (18) Any separate legal entity created under subsection
 31 (7) which has member public agencies located in at least five
 32 counties, of which at least three are not contiguous, may
 33 conduct public meetings and workshops by means of communications
 34 media technology. The notice for any such public meeting or
 35 workshop shall state that the meeting or workshop will be
 36 conducted through the use of communications media technology;
 37 specify how persons interested in attending may do so; and
 38 provide a location where communications media technology
 39 facilities are available. The participation by an officer, board
 40 member, or other representative of a member public agency in a
 41 meeting or workshop conducted through communications media
 42 technology constitutes that individual's presence at such
 43 meeting or workshop. As used in this subsection, the term
 44 "communications media technology" means conference telephone,
 45 video conference, or other communications technology by which
 46 all persons attending a public meeting or workshop may audibly
 47 communicate.

48 Section 2. It is the intent of the Legislature that each
 49 electric utility that is included within the amendment to s.
 50 163.01(3)(f), Florida Statutes, made by this act may exercise
 51 the powers granted by part II of chapter 361, Florida Statutes,
 52 in conjunction with the exercise of the powers and authority
 53 granted by chapter 163, Florida Statutes. It is further the
 54 intent of the Legislature that the amendment is enacted in the
 55 furtherance of and is consistent with the application of part II
 56 of chapter 361, Florida Statutes, the Joint Power Act.

HB 231, Engrossed 1

2012

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Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2012.