

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LOCAL BILL STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: HB 1199 Orange County Civic Facilities Authority, Orange County

SPONSOR(S): Antone

TIED BILLS: **IDEN./SIM. BILLS:**

REFERENCE	ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR or BUDGET/POLICY CHIEF
1) Local & Federal Affairs Committee	15 Y, 0 N	Flegiel	Rojas
2) State Affairs Committee	14 Y, 0 N	Moore	Camechis

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

The Orange County Civic Facilities Authority (Authority) was created in 1969 for the purpose of financing the construction, renovation, maintenance, and operation of facilities in Orange County. Specifically, the Authority issued bonds to finance the renovation of the Citrus Bowl. The creation of the Authority predated the establishment of the tourist development tax, which has since replaced the Authority as the preferred financing mechanism for facility projects in Orange County. Presently, all debt previously issued by the Authority has been paid in full.

The bill repeals ch. 2005-324, L.O.F., and abolishes the Authority. The bill transfers all assets and liabilities of the Authority to the Orange County Board of County Commissioners. Because the Authority has no assets or liabilities, the bill has a fiscally neutral impact on Orange County.

The bill provides that the act takes effect upon becoming law.

FULL ANALYSIS

This document does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill sponsor or House of Representatives.

STORAGE NAME: h1199d.SAC

DATE: 4/11/2014

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

Present Situation

The Orange County Civic Facilities Authority (Authority) is a dependent special district that was created by ch. 69-1382, L.O.F., and amended by subsequent special acts. The charter of the Authority was codified and re-enacted in ch. 2005-324, L.O.F.

The Authority was created for the purpose of planning, developing, constructing, acquiring, owning, reconstructing, extending, enlarging, repairing, improving, relocating, equipping, maintaining, and operating facilities in Orange County designed for the holding of conventions, expositions, and civic, cultural, recreational, athletic, and similar events and activities.

The Authority is overseen by an 11-member board nominated by various cities in Orange County and appointed by the Orange County Board of Commissioners. The Authority is required to meet from time to time to carry out its duties, such as adopting a resolution for a proposed budget to present to the Board of County Commissioners. The Authority has the power to borrow money and perform other actions necessary to carry out the operation of civic facilities in Orange County. However, the Authority must obtain written consent from the Board of County Commissioners to undertake any action the cost of which would exceed \$25,000.¹

The Authority predated the establishment of the tourist development tax financing mechanism, and was originally created for the purpose of issuing bonds for the renovation of the Citrus Bowl in Orlando. Currently, Orange County does not use the Authority as a financing mechanism and all debt previously issued by the Authority has been paid in full.²

Effect of Proposed Changes

The bill repeals ch. 2005-325, L.O.F., and abolishes the Orange County Civic Facilities Authority. The bill transfers all assets and liabilities of the Authority to the Orange County Board of County Commissioners. Because the Authority has no assets or liabilities, this bill has a fiscally neutral impact on Orange County.

B. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1 Repeals ch. 2005-324, L.O.F.

Section 2 Transfers all assets and liabilities of the Authority to the Orange County Board of County Commissioners.

Section 3 Provides that the act takes effect upon becoming law.

II. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? December 12, 2013

WHERE? The *Orlando Sentinel*, a daily newspaper published at Orlando, in Orange County, Florida.

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

¹ Section 4(17), Orange County Civic Facilities Authority Charter.

² Economic Impact Statement, January 29, 2014.

IF YES, WHEN? n/a

C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

The Authority paid off its bonded indebtedness in 2010 and now serves only as an advisory board.

III. COMMENTS

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

None.

IV. AMENDMENTS/ COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

None.