

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
FINAL BILL ANALYSIS**

BILL #: HB 1399

FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION:

SPONSOR(S): Raulerson

118 Y's

1 N's

**COMPANION
BILLS:** N/A

GOVERNOR'S ACTION: Approved

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

HB 1399 passed the House on April 25, 2014, and subsequently passed the Senate on April 29, 2014.

The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (Aviation Authority) was created in 1945. The Aviation Authority is an independent special district that has exclusive jurisdiction and management over all airports in Hillsborough County, except those owned by private parties. The Authority's airports include Tampa International Airport and three general aviation airports: Peter O. Knight Airport in Davis Islands, Plant City Airport in Plant City, and Tampa Executive (formerly Vandenberg Airport) in Tampa.

Current law requires all Authority purchases of construction, improvements, repairs, equipment, supplies, materials, services, or work of any nature to be done through a competitive bidding process if the entire cost or value of the purchase exceeds \$30,000.

The bill increases the Aviation Authority's competitive bidding threshold from \$30,000 to \$100,000. Thus, contracts for purchases with a total cost or value exceeding \$100,000 must be competitively bid.

This bill does not appear to have a fiscal impact on state or local governments.

The bill was approved by the Governor on May 12, 2014, and became effective on that date.

I. SUBSTANTIVE INFORMATION

A. EFFECT OF CHANGES:

Hillsborough County Aviation Authority

The Hillsborough County Aviation Authority (Aviation Authority) was created in 1945 by ch. 23339, L.O.F. The numerous special acts relating to the Authority are codified in ch. 2012-234, L.O.F. The Aviation Authority is an independent special district that has exclusive jurisdiction and management over all airports in Hillsborough County, except those owned by private parties. The Authority's airports include Tampa International Airport and three general aviation airports: Peter O. Knight Airport in Davis Islands, Plant City Airport in Plant City, and Tampa Executive (formerly Vandenberg Airport) in Tampa. The Aviation Authority is one of four large hub airports in the state,¹ which classification is determined by the FAA based on the number of passenger boarding planes each year.²

The Authority is authorized and required to advertise for sealed bids and other competitive selection processes as required by law.³ Current law requires all Authority purchases of construction, improvements, repairs, equipment, supplies, materials, services, or work of any nature to be done through a competitive bidding process if the entire cost or value of the purchase exceeds \$30,000.⁴ The law provides exemptions to the competitive bidding requirement for certain types of purchases, such as purchases of a highly specialized good or service, emergency purchases, and purchases of professional services.⁵

Competitive procurement thresholds for airports vary widely throughout the state as airports are structured differently and governed by different laws. Some airports, such as Miami, are county entities and are thus subject to their respective county's procurement laws. Other airports, such as Tampa, are governed by local authorities. Orlando, like the Aviation Authority, is an independent special district. Currently, Orlando's competitive procurement threshold is set at \$250,000.⁶

Effect of the Bill

The bill amends ch. 2012-234, L.O.F., to increase the Aviation Authority's competitive bidding threshold from \$30,000 to \$100,000. Thus, contracts for purchases with a total cost or value exceeding \$100,000 must be competitively bid. This increased threshold will streamline the procurement process because the Aviation Authority will be able to efficiently procure contracts for goods and services totaling \$100,000 or less.

II. FISCAL ANALYSIS, ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, & NOTICE/REFERENDUM

A. FISCAL IMPACT ON STATE GOVERNMENT:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

¹ The other three airports are Miami, Ft. Lauderdale, and Orlando.

² See Federal Aviation Authority, Airport Planning and Capacity, available at http://www.faa.gov/airports/planning_capacity/passenger_allcargo_stats/categories/.

³ Ch. 2012-234, Section 6(1)(d), L.O.F.

⁴ Ch. 2012-234, Section 11(1)(a), L.O.F.

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Miami and Ft. Lauderdale have procurement thresholds ranging from \$250,000-\$1 million.

B. FISCAL IMPACT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS:

1. Revenues:

None.

2. Expenditures:

None.

C. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes No

D. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? January 24, 2014

WHERE? *The Times*, a daily newspaper published in Hillsborough County, Florida.

E. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No