House

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

Floor: NC/2R 03/09/2016 05:43 PM

Senator Soto moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause

4 and insert:

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Section 1. Utility Cost Containment Bond Act.-

(1) SHORT TITLE.-This section may be cited as the "Utility

Cost Containment Bond Act."

(2) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Authority" means any county or municipal entity,

10 special district, single or multipurpose public authority, or

11 separate legal entity created under s. 163.01(7)(g), Florida

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

12	Statutes, which provides public utility services. The term
13	includes any successor to the powers and functions of such an
14	authority providing public utility services.
15	(b) "Cost," as applied to a utility project or a portion of
16	a utility project financed under this section, means:
17	1. Any part of the expense of constructing, renovating, or
18	acquiring lands, structures, real or personal property, rights,
19	rights-of-way, franchises, easements, and interests acquired or
20	used for a utility project;
21	2. The expense of demolishing or removing any buildings or
22	structures on acquired land, including the expense of acquiring
23	any lands to which the buildings or structures may be moved, and
24	the cost of all machinery and equipment used for the demolition
25	or removal;
26	3. Finance charges;
27	4. Interest, as determined by the authority;
28	5. Provisions for working capital and debt service
29	reserves;
30	6. Expenses for extensions, enlargements, additions,
31	replacements, renovations, and improvements;
32	7. Expenses for architectural, engineering, financial,
33	accounting, and legal services, plans, specifications,
34	estimates, and administration; or
35	8. Any other expenses necessary or incidental to
36	determining the feasibility of constructing a utility project or
37	incidental to the construction, acquisition, or financing of a
38	utility project.
39	(c) "Customer" means a person receiving water or wastewater
40	service from a publicly owned utility.

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

41	(d) "Finance" or "financing" includes refinancing.
42	(e) "Financing cost" means:
43	1. Interest and redemption premiums that are payable on
44	utility cost containment bonds;
45	2. The cost of retiring the principal of utility cost
46	containment bonds, whether at maturity, including acceleration
47	of maturity upon an event of default, or upon redemption,
48	including sinking fund redemption;
49	3. The cost related to issuing or servicing utility cost
50	containment bonds, including any payment under an interest rate
51	swap agreement and any type of fee;
52	4. A payment or expense associated with a bond insurance
53	policy; financial guaranty; contract, agreement, or other credit
54	or liquidity enhancement for bonds; or contract, agreement, or
55	other financial agreement entered into in connection with
56	utility cost containment bonds;
57	5. Any coverage charges; or
58	6. The funding of one or more reserve accounts relating to
59	utility cost containment bonds.
60	(f) "Financing resolution" means a resolution adopted by
61	the governing body of an authority that provides for the
62	financing or refinancing of a utility project with utility cost
63	containment bonds and that imposes a utility project charge in
64	connection with the utility cost containment bonds in accordance
65	with subsection (4). A financing resolution may be separate from
66	a resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds.
67	(g) "Governing body" means the body that governs a local
68	agency.
69	(h) "Local agency" means a member of a separate legal

Page 3 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

70	entity created under s. 163.01(7)(g), Florida Statutes, or an
71	agency or subdivision of that member, which is sponsoring or
72	refinancing a utility project; any municipality, county,
73	authority, special district, public corporation, or regional
74	water authority; or any other governmental entity of the state
75	which is sponsoring or refinancing a utility project.
76	(i) "Publicly owned utility" means a utility providing
77	retail or wholesale water or wastewater services which is owned
78	and operated by a local agency. The term includes any successor
79	to the powers and functions of such a utility.
80	(j) "Public utility services" means water or wastewater
81	services provided by a publicly owned utility. The term does not
82	include communications services, as defined in s. 202.11,
83	Florida Statutes, Internet access services, or information
84	services.
85	(k) "Revenue" means income and receipts of the authority
86	related to the financing of utility projects and issuance of
87	utility cost containment bonds, including any of the following:
88	1. Bond purchase agreements;
89	2. Bonds acquired by the authority;
90	3. Installment sales agreements and other revenue-producing
91	agreements entered into by the authority;
92	4. Utility projects financed or refinanced by the
93	authority;
94	5. Grants and other sources of income;
95	6. Moneys paid by a local agency;
96	7. Interlocal agreements with a local agency, including all
97	service agreements; or
98	8. Interest or other income from any investment of money in

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

99	any fund or account established for the payment of principal,
100	interest, or premiums on utility cost containment bonds, or the
101	deposit of proceeds of utility cost containment bonds.
102	(1) "Utility cost containment bonds" means bonds, notes,
103	commercial paper, variable rate securities, and any other
104	evidence of indebtedness issued by an authority the proceeds of
105	which are used directly or indirectly to pay or reimburse a
106	local agency or its publicly owned utility for the costs of a
107	utility project and which are secured by a pledge of, and are
108	payable from, utility project property.
109	(m) "Utility project" means the acquisition, construction,
110	installation, retrofitting, rebuilding, or other addition to or
111	improvement of any equipment, device, structure, process,
112	facility, technology, rights, or property located within or
113	outside this state which is used in connection with the
114	operations of a publicly owned utility.
115	(n) "Utility project charge" means a charge levied on
116	customers of a publicly owned utility to pay the financing costs
117	of utility cost containment bonds issued under subsection (4).
118	The term includes any adjustments to the utility project charge
119	made under subsection (5).
120	(o) "Utility project property" means the property right
121	created pursuant to subsection (6). The term does not include
122	any interest in a customer's real or personal property but
123	includes the right, title, and interest of an authority in any
124	of the following:
125	1. The financing resolution, the utility project charge,
126	and any adjustment to the utility project charge established in
127	accordance with subsection (5);

Page 5 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

128 2. The financing costs of the utility cost containment bonds and all revenues, and all collections, claims, payments, 129 130 moneys, or proceeds for, or arising from, the utility project 131 charge; or 132 3. All rights to obtain adjustments to the utility project 133 charge pursuant to subsection (5). 134 (3) UTILITY PROJECTS.-135 (a) A local agency that owns and operates a publicly owned utility may apply to an authority to finance the costs of a 136 137 utility project using the proceeds of utility cost containment 138 bonds. In its application to the authority, the local agency 139 shall specify the utility project to be financed by the utility 140 cost containment bonds and the maximum principal amount, the 141 maximum interest rate, and the maximum stated terms of the 142 utility cost containment bonds. 143 (b) A local agency may not apply to an authority for the financing of a utility project under this section unless the 144 governing body has determined, in a duly noticed public meeting, 145 146 all of the following: 147 1. The project to be financed is a utility project. 148 2. The local agency will finance costs of the utility 149 project, and the costs associated with the financing will be 150 paid from utility project property, including the utility 151 project charge for the utility cost containment bonds. 152 3. Based on the best information available to the governing 153 body, the rates charged to the local agency's retail customers 154 by the publicly owned utility, including the utility project 155 charge resulting from the financing of the utility project with 156 utility cost containment bonds, are expected to be lower than

Page 6 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



157 the rates that would be charged if the project were financed with bonds payable from revenues of the publicly owned utility. 158 159 (c) A determination by the governing body that a project to 160 be financed with utility cost containment bonds is a utility 161 project is final and conclusive, and the utility cost 162 containment bonds issued to finance the utility project and the 163 utility project charge are valid and enforceable as set forth in 164 the financing resolution and the documents relating to the 165 utility cost containment bonds. 166 (d) If a local agency that has outstanding utility cost containment bonds ceases to operate a water or wastewater 167 168 utility, directly or through its publicly owned utility, 169 references in this section to the local agency or to its 170 publicly owned utility must be to the successor entity. The 171 successor entity shall assume and perform all obligations of the 172 local agency and its publicly owned utility required by this 173 section and shall assume the servicing agreement required under 174 subsection (4) while the utility cost containment bonds remain 175 outstanding. 176 (4) FINANCING UTILITY PROJECTS.-(a) An authority may issue utility cost containment bonds 177 178 to finance or refinance utility projects; refinance debt of a 179 local agency incurred in financing or refinancing utility projects, provided such refinancing results in present value 180 181 savings to the local agency; or, with the approval of the local 182 agency, refinance previously issued utility cost containment 183 bonds. 184 1. To finance a utility project, the authority may: 185 a. Form a single-purpose limited liability company and

Page 7 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

authorize the company to adopt the financing resolution of such
utility project; or
b. Create a new single-purpose entity by interlocal
agreement under s. 163.01, Florida Statutes, the membership of
which shall consist of the authority and two or more of its
members or other public agencies.
2. A single-purpose limited liability company or a single-
purpose entity may be created by the authority solely for the
purpose of performing the duties and responsibilities of the
authority specified in this section and constitutes an authority
for all purposes of this section. Reference to the authority
includes a company or entity created under this paragraph.
(b) The governing body of an authority that is financing
the costs of a utility project shall adopt a financing
resolution and shall impose a utility project charge as
described in subsection (5). All provisions of a financing
resolution adopted pursuant to this section are binding on the
authority.
1. The financing resolution must:
a. Provide a brief description of the financial calculation
method the authority will use in determining the utility project
charge. The calculation method must include a periodic
adjustment methodology to be applied at least annually to the
utility project charge. The authority shall establish the
allocation of the utility project charge among classes of
customers of the publicly owned utility. The decision of the
authority is final and conclusive, and the method of calculating
the utility project charge and the periodic adjustment may not
be changed;

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



215 b. Require each customer in the class or classes of 216 customers specified in the financing resolution who receives water or wastewater service through the publicly owned utility 217 218 to pay the utility project charge regardless of whether the 219 customer has an agreement to receive water or wastewater service 220 from a person other than the publicly owned utility; 221 c. Require that the utility project charge be charged 222 separately from other charges on the bill of customers of the 223 publicly owned utility in the class or classes of customers 224 specified in the financing resolution; and 225 d. Require that the authority enter into a servicing 226 agreement with the local agency or its publicly owned utility to 227 collect the utility project charge. 228 2. The authority may require in the financing resolution 229 that, in the event of a default by the local agency or its 230 publicly owned utility with respect to revenues from the utility 231 project property, the authority, upon application by the 232 beneficiaries of the statutory lien as set forth in subsection 233 (6), shall order the sequestration and payment to the 234 beneficiaries of revenues arising from utility project property. This subparagraph does not limit any other remedies available to 235 the beneficiaries by reason of default. 236 237 (c) An authority has all of the powers provided in this 238 section and s. 163.01(7)(g), Florida Statutes. 239 (d) Each authority may work with local agencies that 240 request assistance to determine the most cost-effective manner 241 of financing regional water projects. If these entities 242 determine that the issuance of utility cost containment bonds 243 will result in lower financing costs for a project, the

Page 9 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

244	authority may cooperate with such local agencies and, if
245	requested by the local agencies, issue utility cost containment
246	bonds as provided in this section.
247	(5) UTILITY PROJECT CHARGE
248	(a) The authority shall impose a sufficient utility project
249	charge, based on estimates of water or wastewater service usage,
250	to ensure timely payment of all financing costs with respect to
251	utility cost containment bonds. The local agency or its publicly
252	owned utility shall provide the authority with information
253	concerning the publicly owned utility which may be required by
254	the authority in establishing the utility project charge.
255	(b) The utility project charge is a nonbypassable charge to
256	all present and future customers of the publicly owned utility
257	in the class or classes of customers specified in the financing
258	resolution upon its adoption. If the regulatory structure for
259	the water or wastewater industry changes in a manner that
260	authorizes a customer to choose to take service from an
261	alternative supplier and the customer chooses an alternative
262	supplier, the customer remains liable for paying the utility
263	project charge if the customer continues to receive any service
264	from the publicly owned utility for the transmission,
265	distribution, processing, delivery, or metering of the
266	underlying water or wastewater service.
267	(c) The authority shall determine at least annually and at
268	such additional intervals as provided in the financing
269	resolution and documents related to the applicable utility cost
270	containment bonds whether adjustments to the utility project
271	charge are required. The authority shall use the adjustment to
272	correct for any overcollection or undercollection of financing

Page 10 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



273	costs from the utility project charge or to make any other
274	adjustment necessary to ensure the timely payment of the
275	financing costs of the utility cost containment bonds, including
276	adjustment of the utility project charge to pay any debt service
277	coverage requirement for the utility cost containment bonds. The
278	local agency or its publicly owned utility shall provide the
279	authority with information concerning the publicly owned utility
280	which may be required by the authority in adjusting the utility
281	project charge.
282	1. If the authority determines that an adjustment to the
283	utility project charge is required, the adjustment must be made
284	using the methodology specified in the financing resolution.
285	2. The adjustment may not impose the utility project charge
286	on a class of customers which was not subject to the utility
287	project charge pursuant to the financing resolution imposing the
288	utility project charge.
289	(d) Revenues from a utility project charge are special
290	revenues of the authority and do not constitute revenue of the
291	local agency or its publicly owned utility for any purpose,
292	including any dedication, commitment, or pledge of revenue,
293	receipts, or other income that the local agency or its publicly
294	owned utility has made or will make for the security of any of
295	its obligations.
296	(e) The local agency or its publicly owned utility shall
297	act as a servicing agent for collecting the utility project
298	charge throughout the duration of the servicing agreement
299	required by the financing resolution. The local agency or its
300	publicly owned utility shall hold the money collected in trust
301	for the exclusive benefit of the persons entitled to have the

Page 11 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

302 financing costs paid from the utility project charge, and the money does not lose its designation as revenues of the authority 303 by virtue of possession by the local agency or its publicly 304 305 owned utility. 306 (f) The customer must make timely and complete payment of 307 all utility project charges as a condition of receiving water or 308 wastewater service from the publicly owned utility. The local 309 agency or its publicly owned utility may use its established 310 collection policies and remedies provided under law to enforce 311 collection of the utility project charge. A customer liable for 312 a utility project charge may not withhold payment, in whole or 313 in part, thereof. 314 (q) The pledge of a utility project charge to secure 315 payment of utility cost containment bonds is irrevocable, and 316 the state, or any other entity, may not reduce, impair, or otherwise adjust the utility project charge, except that the 317 authority shall implement the periodic adjustments to the 318 319 utility project charge as provided under this subsection. 320 (6) UTILITY PROJECT PROPERTY.-321 (a) A utility project charge constitutes utility project 322 property on the effective date of the financing resolution 323 authorizing such utility project charge. Utility project 324 property constitutes property, including contracts for securing 325 utility cost containment bonds, regardless of whether the 326 revenues and proceeds arising with respect to the utility 327 project property have accrued. Utility project property shall 328 continuously exist as property for all purposes with all of the 329 rights and privileges of this section through the end of the 330 period provided in the financing resolution or until all

Page 12 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



331	financing costs with respect to the related utility cost
332	containment bonds are paid in full, whichever occurs first.
333	(b) Upon the effective date of the financing resolution,
334	the utility project property is subject to a first-priority
335	statutory lien to secure the payment of the utility cost
336	containment bonds.
337	1. The lien secures the payment of all financing costs then
338	existing or subsequently arising to the holders of the utility
339	cost containment bonds, the trustees or representatives of the
340	holders of the utility cost containment bonds, and any other
341	entity specified in the financing resolution or the documents
342	relating to the utility cost containment bonds.
343	2. The lien attaches to the utility project property
344	regardless of the current ownership of the utility project
345	property, including any local agency or its publicly owned
346	utility, the authority, or any other person.
347	3. Upon the effective date of the financing resolution, the
348	lien is valid and enforceable against the owner of the utility
349	project property and all third parties, and additional public
350	notice is not required.
351	4. The lien is a continuously perfected lien on all
352	revenues and proceeds generated from the utility project
353	property regardless of whether the revenues or proceeds have
354	accrued.
355	(c) All revenues with respect to utility project property
356	related to utility cost containment bonds, including payments of
357	the utility project charge, shall be applied first to the
358	payment of the financing costs of the utility cost containment
359	bonds then due, including the funding of reserves for the

Page 13 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

360 utility cost containment bonds. Any excess revenues shall be 361 applied as determined by the authority for the benefit of the 362 utility for which the utility cost containment bonds were 363 issued. 364 (7) UTILITY COST CONTAINMENT BONDS.-365 (a) Utility cost containment bonds shall be issued within 366 the parameters of the financing provided by the authority 367 pursuant to this section. The proceeds of the utility cost 368 containment bonds made available to the local agency or its 369 publicly owned utility shall be used for the utility project 370 identified in the application for financing of the utility 371 project or used to refinance indebtedness of the local agency 372 which financed or refinanced utility projects. 373 (b) Utility cost containment bonds shall be issued as set 374 forth in this section and s. 163.01(7)(g)8., Florida Statutes, 375 and may be validated pursuant to s. 163.01(7)(g)9., Florida 376 Statutes. 377 (c) The authority shall pledge the utility project property 378 as security for the payment of the utility cost containment 379 bonds. All rights of an authority with respect to utility 380 project property pledged as security for the payment of utility 381 cost containment bonds shall be for the benefit of, and 382 enforceable by, the beneficiaries of the pledge to the extent 383 provided in the financing documents relating to the utility cost 384 containment bonds. 385 1. If utility project property is pledged as security for 386 the payment of utility cost containment bonds, the local agency 387 or its publicly owned utility shall enter into a contract with 388 the authority which requires, at a minimum, that the publicly

Page 14 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

## 780764

389	owned utility:
390	a. Continue to operate its publicly owned utility,
391	including the utility project that is being financed or
392	refinanced;
393	b. Collect the utility project charge from customers for
394	the benefit and account of the authority and the beneficiaries
395	of the pledge of the utility project charge; and
396	c. Separately account for and remit revenue from the
397	utility project charge to, or for the account of, the authority.
398	2. The pledge of a utility project charge to secure payment
399	of utility cost containment bonds is irrevocable, and the state
400	or any other entity may not reduce, impair, or otherwise adjust
401	the utility project charge, except that the authority shall
402	implement periodic adjustments to the utility project charge as
403	provided under subsection (5).
404	(d) Utility cost containment bonds shall be nonrecourse to
405	the credit or any assets of the local agency or the publicly
406	owned utility but are payable from, and secured by a pledge of
407	the utility project property relating to the utility cost
408	containment bonds and any additional security or credit
409	enhancement specified in the documents relating to the utility
410	cost containment bonds. If, pursuant to subsection (4), the
411	authority is financing the project through a single-purpose
412	limited liability company, the utility cost containment bonds
413	shall be payable from, and secured by, a pledge of amounts paid
414	by the company to the authority from the applicable utility
415	project property. This paragraph is the exclusive method of
416	perfecting a pledge of utility project property by the company
417	securing the payment of financing costs under any agreement of

Page 15 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

418	the company in connection with the issuance of utility cost
419	containment bonds.
420	(e) The issuance of utility cost containment bonds does not
421	obligate the state or any political subdivision thereof to levy
422	or to pledge any form of taxation to pay the utility cost
423	containment bonds or to make any appropriation for their
424	payment. Each utility cost containment bond must contain on its
425	face a statement in substantially the following form:
426	
427	"Neither the full faith and credit nor the taxing power of the
428	State of Florida or any political subdivision thereof is pledged
429	to the payment of the principal of, or interest on, this bond."
430	
431	(f) Notwithstanding any other law or this section, a
432	financing resolution or other resolution of the authority, or
433	documents relating to utility cost containment bonds, the
434	authority may not rescind, alter, or amend any resolution or
435	document that pledges utility cost charges for payment of
436	utility cost containment bonds.
437	(g) Subject to the terms of any pledge document created
438	under this section, the validity and relative priority of a
439	pledge is not defeated or adversely affected by the commingling
440	of revenues generated by the utility project property with other
441	funds of the local agency or the publicly owned utility
442	collecting a utility project charge on behalf of an authority.
443	(h) Financing costs in connection with utility cost
444	containment bonds are a special obligation of the authority and
445	do not constitute a liability of the state or any political
446	subdivision thereof. Financing costs are not a pledge of the

Page 16 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



447 full faith and credit of the state or any political subdivision thereof, including the authority, but are payable solely from 448 449 the funds identified in the documents relating to the utility 450 cost containment bonds. This paragraph does not preclude 451 guarantees or credit enhancements in connection with utility 452 cost containment bonds. 453 (i) Except as otherwise provided in this section with 454 respect to adjustments to a utility project charge, the recovery 455 of the financing costs for the utility cost containment bonds 456 from the utility project charge is irrevocable, and the 457 authority does not have the power, by rescinding, altering, or 458 amending the applicable financing resolution, to revalue or 459 revise for ratemaking purposes the financing costs of utility 460 cost containment bonds; to determine that the financing costs 461 for the related utility cost containment bonds or the utility 462 project charge is unjust or unreasonable; or to in any way, either directly or indirectly, reduce or impair the value of 463 464 utility project property that includes the utility project charge. The amount of revenues arising with respect to the 465 466 financing costs for the related utility cost containment bonds 467 or the utility project charge is not subject to reduction, impairment, postponement, or termination for any reason until 468 469 all financing costs to be paid from the utility project charge 470 are fully met and discharged. 471 (j) Except as provided in subsection (5) with respect to 472 adjustments to a utility project charge, the state pledges and 473 agrees with the owners of utility cost containment bonds that 474 the state may not limit or alter the financing costs or the

Page 17 of 21

utility project property, including the utility project charge,

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Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



476 relating to the utility cost containment bonds, or any rights 477 related to the utility project property, until all financing costs with respect to the utility cost containment bonds are 478 479 fully met and discharged. This paragraph does not preclude 480 limitation or alteration if adequate provision is made by law to 481 protect the owners. The authority may include the state's pledge 482 in the governing documents for utility cost containment bonds. 483 (8) LIMITATION ON DEBT RELIEF.-Notwithstanding any other 484 law, an authority that issued utility cost containment bonds may 485 not, and a governmental officer or organization may not 486 authorize the authority to, become a debtor under the United 487 States Bankruptcy Code or become the subject of any similar case 488 or proceeding under any other state or federal law if any 489 payment obligation from utility project property remains with 490 respect to the utility cost containment bonds. 491 (9) CONSTRUCTION.-This section and s. 163.01(7)(g), Florida 492 Statutes: 493 (a) May not be deemed exclusive or to otherwise preclude 494 the concurrent provision of funding and financing of any utility 495 project or other qualifying improvements authorized by law or by 496 interlocal agreement. 497 (b) May not be construed to preclude any general or special 498 purpose local government or separate legal entity from funding 499 or financing any utility project or otherwise qualifying 500 improvements within the bounds of any general or special purpose 501 local government. 502 503 This section and all grants of power and authority in this 504 section shall be liberally construed to effectuate their

Page 18 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324

780764

505	purposes. All incidental powers necessary to carry this section
506	into effect are expressly granted to, and conferred upon, public
507	entities.
508	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.
509	
510	======================================
511	And the title is amended as follows:
512	Delete everything before the enacting clause
513	and insert:
514	A bill to be entitled
515	An act relating to utility projects; providing a short
516	title; defining terms; authorizing certain local
517	governmental entities to finance the costs of a
518	utility project by issuing utility cost containment
519	bonds upon application by a local agency; specifying
520	application requirements; requiring a successor entity
521	of a local agency to assume and perform the
522	obligations of the local agency with respect to the
523	financing of a utility project; providing procedures
524	for local agencies to use when applying to finance a
525	utility project using utility cost containment bonds;
526	authorizing an authority to issue utility cost
527	containment bonds for specified purposes related to
528	utility projects; authorizing an authority to form
529	alternate entities to finance utility projects;
530	requiring the governing body of the authority to adopt
531	a financing resolution and impose a utility project
532	charge on customers of a publicly owned utility as a
533	condition of utility project financing; specifying

Page 19 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



534 required and optional provisions of the financing 535 resolution; specifying powers of the authority; 536 requiring the local agency or its publicly owned 537 utility to assist the authority in the establishment 538 or adjustment of the utility project charge; requiring 539 that customers of the public utility specified in the financing resolution pay the utility project charge; 540 541 providing for adjustment of the utility project charge; establishing ownership of the revenues of the 542 utility project charge; requiring the local agency or 543 544 its publicly owned utility to collect the utility 545 project charge; conditioning a customer's receipt of 546 public utility services on payment of the utility 547 project charge; authorizing a local agency or its 548 publicly owned utility to use available remedies to 549 enforce collection of the utility project charge; 550 providing that the pledge of the utility project 551 charge to secure payment of bonds issued to finance 552 the utility project is irrevocable and cannot be 553 reduced or impaired except under certain conditions; 554 providing that a utility project charge constitutes 555 utility project property; providing that utility 556 project property is subject to a lien to secure 557 payment of costs relating to utility cost containment 558 bonds; establishing payment priorities for the use of 559 revenues of the utility project property; providing 560 for the issuance and validation of utility cost containment bonds; securing the payment of utility 561 562 cost containment bonds and related costs; providing

Page 20 of 21

Florida Senate - 2016 Bill No. CS for CS for SB 324



563 that utility cost containment bonds do not obligate 564 the state or any political subdivision and are not 565 backed by their full faith and credit and taxing 566 power; requiring that certain disclosures be printed 567 on utility cost containment bonds; providing that 568 financing costs related to utility cost containment 569 bonds are an obligation of the authority only; 570 providing limitations on the state's ability to alter 571 financing costs or utility project property under 572 certain circumstances; prohibiting an authority with 573 outstanding payment obligations on utility cost 574 containment bonds from becoming a debtor under certain 575 federal or state laws; providing for construction; 576 endowing public entities with certain powers; 577 providing an effective date.