

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to county and municipal public  
3           officers and employees; amending s. 99.061, F.S.;  
4           requiring a candidate for an elective municipal office  
5           to file a full and public disclosure of financial  
6           interests upon qualifying for office; amending s.  
7           106.07, F.S.; requiring elected county or municipal  
8           public officers who are candidates for elective office  
9           to make certain campaign finance reports available for  
10          posting on certain websites; amending s. 112.061,  
11          F.S.; requiring that requests to travel out of state  
12          by county or municipal public officers be approved by  
13          the governing body of the county or municipality at a  
14          publicly noticed meeting; specifying requirements for  
15          such meetings; limiting travel expenses of such public  
16          officers or employees to those expenses incurred  
17          within a specified timeframe; prohibiting advancement  
18          or reimbursement for travel expenses of such public  
19          officers or employees for foreign travel; providing  
20          exemptions for county constitutional officers;  
21          requiring county or municipal public officers to  
22          report certain travel expenses to a local commission  
23          on ethics or the Commission on Ethics; specifying  
24          requirements for such reports; amending s. 112.3144,  
25          F.S.; requiring elected municipal officers to file a

26 full and public disclosure of financial interests;  
 27 conforming provisions; providing effective dates.

28

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

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31 Section 1. Effective January 1, 2019, subsection (5) of  
 32 section 99.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

33 99.061 Method of qualifying for nomination or election to  
 34 federal, state, county, municipal, or district office.—

35 (5) At the time of qualifying for office, each candidate  
 36 for an elective municipal office or a constitutional office  
 37 shall file a full and public disclosure of financial interests  
 38 pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of the State Constitution, which must  
 39 be verified under oath or affirmation pursuant to s.

40 92.525(1) (a), and a candidate for any other office, ~~including~~  
 41 ~~local elective office~~, shall file a statement of financial  
 42 interests pursuant to s. 112.3145.

43 Section 2. Subsection (10) is added to section 106.07,  
 44 Florida Statutes, to read:

45 106.07 Reports; certification and filing.—

46 (10) An elected county or municipal public officer who is  
 47 a candidate for elective office must provide any report he or  
 48 she is required to file pursuant to this section, whether for  
 49 his or her campaign or a political committee that he or she  
 50 controls, to the county or municipality that he or she serves

51 for posting on its website.

52 Section 3. Paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) of subsection (3)  
53 of section 112.061, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as  
54 paragraphs (h), (i), and (j), respectively, paragraph (a) of  
55 that subsection is amended, new paragraphs (f) and (g) are added  
56 to that subsection, and subsection (16) is added to that  
57 section, to read:

58 112.061 Per diem and travel expenses of public officers,  
59 employees, and authorized persons.—

60 (3) AUTHORITY TO INCUR TRAVEL EXPENSES.—

61 (a) All travel must be authorized and approved by the head  
62 of the agency, or his or her designated representative, from  
63 whose funds the traveler is paid. The head of the agency shall  
64 not authorize or approve such a request unless:

65 1. It is accompanied by a signed statement by the  
66 traveler's supervisor stating that such travel is on the  
67 official business of the state and also stating the purpose of  
68 such travel.

69 2. For county or municipal public officers requesting  
70 authorization to travel outside of the state, it is approved by  
71 the governing body of the county or municipality at a publicly  
72 noticed meeting. The request must be included on the meeting  
73 agenda and must include an itemized list detailing all  
74 anticipated travel expenses, including, but not limited to, the  
75 anticipated costs of all means of travel, lodging, and

76 subsistence. The public must have an opportunity to speak at the  
77 meeting before the vote occurs. The governing body of the county  
78 or municipality may approve the request by a majority vote of  
79 the members present and voting at the meeting. This paragraph  
80 does not apply to a county constitutional officer, as defined in  
81 s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, who is elected by  
82 the electors of the county.

83 (f) Travel expenses of county or municipal public officers  
84 or employees shall be limited to those expenses necessarily  
85 incurred by them beginning 24 hours before the start of the  
86 event and ending 24 hours after the end of the event  
87 necessitating such travel. This paragraph does not apply to a  
88 county constitutional officer, as defined in s. 1(d), Art. VIII  
89 of the State Constitution, who is elected by the electors of the  
90 county.

91 (g) Travel expenses of county or municipal public officers  
92 or employees for foreign travel shall not be allowed under any  
93 circumstances. This paragraph does not apply to a county  
94 constitutional officer, as defined in s. 1(d), Art. VIII of the  
95 State Constitution, who is elected by the electors of the  
96 county.

97 (16) REPORTING.—A county or municipal public officer must  
98 report travel expenses that are paid with or reimbursed from  
99 taxpayer funds to the commission on ethics of the county or  
100 municipality or, if the county or municipality has not

101 established a commission on ethics, to the Commission on Ethics  
102 created in s. 112.320. The travel expense report must state the  
103 purpose of the travel, justify the necessity of the travel, and  
104 provide proof of incurred travel expenses.

105 Section 4. Effective January 1, 2019, subsections (1),  
106 (2), and (3) of section 112.3144, Florida Statutes, are amended  
107 to read:

108 112.3144 Full and public disclosure of financial  
109 interests.—

110 (1) In addition to the officers specified in s. 8, Art. II  
111 of the State Constitution or any other state law, all elected  
112 municipal officers, including any individual who is appointed to  
113 fill a vacancy for an unexpired term in an elective municipal  
114 office, are required to file a full and public disclosure of  
115 their financial interests. An officer who is required by s. 8,  
116 Art. II of the State Constitution to file a full and public  
117 disclosure of ~~his or her~~ financial interests for any calendar or  
118 fiscal year shall file that disclosure with the ~~Florida~~  
119 Commission on Ethics. ~~Additionally, beginning January 1, 2015,~~  
120 An officer who is required to complete annual ethics training  
121 pursuant to s. 112.3142 must certify on his or her full and  
122 public disclosure of financial interests that he or she has  
123 completed the required training.

124 (2) A person who is required, ~~pursuant to s. 8, Art. II of~~  
125 ~~the State Constitution,~~ to file a full and public disclosure of

126 financial interests and who has filed a full and public  
127 disclosure of financial interests for any calendar or fiscal  
128 year ~~is shall~~ not ~~be~~ required to file a statement of financial  
129 interests pursuant to s. 112.3145(2) and (3) for the same year  
130 or for any part thereof notwithstanding any requirement of this  
131 part. If an incumbent in an elective office has filed the full  
132 and public disclosure of financial interests to qualify for  
133 election to the same office or if a candidate for office holds  
134 another office subject to the annual filing requirement, the  
135 qualifying officer shall forward an electronic copy of the full  
136 and public disclosure of financial interests to the commission  
137 no later than July 1. The electronic copy of the full and public  
138 disclosure of financial interests satisfies the annual  
139 disclosure requirement of this section. A candidate who does not  
140 qualify until after the annual full and public disclosure of  
141 financial interests has been filed pursuant to this section  
142 shall file a copy of his or her disclosure with the officer  
143 before whom he or she qualifies.

144 (3) For purposes of full and public disclosure under s.  
145 8(a), Art. II of the State Constitution and this section, the  
146 following items, if not held for investment purposes and if  
147 valued at over \$1,000 in the aggregate, may be reported in a  
148 lump sum and identified as "household goods and personal  
149 effects":

150 (a) Jewelry;

151 (b) Collections of stamps, guns, and numismatic  
152 properties;

153 (c) Art objects;

154 (d) Household equipment and furnishings;

155 (e) Clothing;

156 (f) Other household items; and

157 (g) Vehicles for personal use.

158 Section 5. Except as otherwise provided in this act, this  
159 act shall take effect July 1, 2018.