An act relating to the Hillsborough County City-County Planning Commission; amending chapter 97-351, Laws of Florida; adding mandatory components of performance audits; clarifying requirements for contracting for performance audits; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 7 of chapter 97-351, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 7. Performance audits required.--The commission is subject to a performance audit every 4 years, with the first of such audits having been completed April 30, 1996, as follows:

- (1) For purposes of this act, the performance audit, which shall be conducted in accordance with Government Auditing Standards as promulgated by the United States Comptroller General, shall contain the following components:
- (a) An appraisal of management performance, including the effectiveness of administration and the efficiency and adequacy of the program the entity is authorized by law to perform.
- (b) An assessment of adherence to general and special law and any rules promulgated thereunder.
- (c) Recommendations for changes required in general or special law which, if enacted, would enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the program.

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- An examination and evaluation of alternative methods of providing program services or products more efficiently and effectively.
- The adequacy of operating controls and operating procedures.
- (f) An assessment of relations with employees and the public generally.
- (g) An assessment of financial impact, if any, of any of the recommendations contained in the final audit report.
- (h) An assessment of progress made on the most recent previous performance audit recommendations, if any.
- (i)(g) A copy of the response received pursuant to subparagraph (3)(b)3.
- (2) The audit may not be performed by any agency of state or local government, with the exception of the Auditor General of the State of Florida as provided by general law. However, nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit other audits authorized by law.
- (3)(a) In contracting for the audit, the governing board of the commission shall utilize standard procedures for any public body when contracting for professional services, including, but not limited to:
- Public notice which must include a general description of the audit and must indicate how interested firms or individuals can apply for consideration, including a requirement that any such applicant must provide a statement of qualifications and performance data. announcement, in a uniform and consistent manner, when auditing services are required to be purchased, a general description of the audit, and an indication of how interested parties may apply for consideration;

- 2. Adoption of procedures for the evaluation of professional auditing services, including, but not limited to, capabilities; adequacy and ability of professional personnel; past record; audit and other experience of the firm or responsible individual, including a statement that such firm or individual has met the required continuing professional educational requirements as prescribed by the Florida

 Department of Business and Professional Regulation, Board of Accountancy; results of its most recent external quality control review basis for fees; ability to meet time requirements; and such other factors as may be determined by the commission to be applicable to its particular requirements.
- 3. Making a finding that the firm or individual to be employed is fully qualified pursuant to <u>law and</u> the adopted evaluation procedures.
- (b) The contract shall be evidenced by a written document embodying all provisions and conditions of the procurement of such services, which shall include, but shall not be limited to:
- 1. A provision that bills for fees or other compensation for services or expenses be submitted in detail with supporting documentation sufficient for a proper preaudit and postaudit thereof.
- 2. A provision that bills for any travel and per diem expenses be submitted in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes.
- 3. A provision that, at the conclusion of the audit, the entity conducting the audit shall discuss the audit with the chair of the commission, and submit to that person preliminary audit findings, including relevant supporting

documentation, if requested which may be included in the final audit report. If the chair is not available for receipt of the audit findings, with any adverse findings clearly designated as such, then delivery thereof is presumed to be made when it is delivered to the commission's executive office. The chair shall submit to the entity conducting the audit, within 60 days of receipt of the preliminary findings, his or her written response concerning all such findings, including corrective action to be taken to preclude a recurrence of any adverse findings. Thereafter, a final audit report shall be issued which shall include the chair's response and any rebuttal thereto by the entity conducting the audit.

- 4. A provision that those workpapers necessary to support the conclusions in the final audit report shall be retained by the entity conducting the audit for a period of 2 years following delivery of the final audit and shall be made available to the commission upon a vote of the majority of the governing board of the commission. The audit report, when final, shall be retained by the commission pursuant to chapter 119, Florida Statutes.
- 5. A provision that, upon completion of the audit, sufficient copies shall be filed with the Office of the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation for distribution to members of the delegation and that sufficient copies be provided to the commission to meet anticipated public demand for copies of such audit.
- (c) In the event the audit is to be paid for by the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County as provided herein, the contract document may not be executed

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without the advice and consent of the board, although the board may not unreasonably withhold confirmation.

- (4) Funds shall be appropriated by the Board of County Commissioners of Hillsborough County for payment of costs incurred in connection with such audit. The commission shall request the estimated funding required for the audit in accordance with county budgeting procedures in a manner that will assure funds will be appropriated for that purpose during the fiscal year in which the audit is to be completed.
- (5) In the event the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners has ordered a performance audit pursuant to general law by any appropriately qualified entity not a part of county government which was completed within 2 years prior to April 30 of the year the performance audit herein is to be completed, or which will be completed within 3 months after April 30 of the year the performance audit herein is to be completed, and the audit contains the mandatory components contained in subsection (1), that audit may be used to fulfill the requirement for the performance audit. In the event an audit so ordered is to be submitted to fulfill the requirements of this act and will be completed after the April 30 deadline, the commission shall notify the Office of the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation by April 30 that the audit will be so delayed, the reason for the delay, and the date it will be delivered, which date shall not be later than July 31 in the year in which the audit is due.
- (6) One year from the date of the final audit report, the chair of the commission shall submit to the Office of the Hillsborough County Legislative Delegation a written statement of the status of recommendations <u>and responses</u> contained in the audit report.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.