

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2524

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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11 Senator Hargrett moved the following amendment:

13 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

14 On page 28, between lines 5 and 6,

16 insert:

17 Section 9. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (1) of  
18 section 234.01, Florida Statutes, to read:

19 234.01 Purpose; transportation; when provided.--

20 (1) School boards, after considering recommendations  
21 of the superintendent:

22 (g) May provide transportation for WAGES program  
23 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.

24 Section 10. Present paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of  
25 section 234.211, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as  
26 paragraph (c), and a new paragraph (b) is added to that  
27 subsection to read:

28 234.211 Use of school buses for public purposes.--

29 (1)

30 (b) Each school district may enter into agreements  
31 with local WAGES coalitions for the provision of

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1 transportation services to WAGES program participants as  
2 defined in s. 414.0252. Agreements must provide for  
3 reimbursement in full or in part for the proportionate share  
4 of fixed and operating costs incurred by the school district  
5 attributable to the use of buses in accordance with the  
6 agreement.

7 Section 11. Subsection (13) is added to section  
8 341.041, Florida Statutes, to read:

9 341.041 Transit responsibilities of the  
10 department.--The department shall, within the resources  
11 provided pursuant to chapter 216:

12 (13) Assist local governmental entities and other  
13 transit operators in the planning, development, and  
14 coordination of transit services for WAGES program  
15 participants as defined in s. 414.0252.

16 Section 12. Subsections (1) and (2) of section  
17 341.052, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

18 341.052 Public transit block grant program;  
19 administration; eligible projects; limitation.--

20 (1) There is created a public transit block grant  
21 program which shall be administered by the department. Block  
22 grant funds shall only be provided to "Section 9" providers  
23 and "Section 18" providers designated by the United States  
24 Department of Transportation and community transportation  
25 coordinators as defined in chapter 427. Eligible providers  
26 must establish public transportation development plans  
27 consistent, to the maximum extent feasible, with approved  
28 local government comprehensive plans of the units of local  
29 government in which the provider is located. In developing  
30 public transportation development plans, eligible providers  
31 must solicit comments from local WAGES coalitions established

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1 under chapter 414. The development plans must address how the  
2 public transit provider will work with the appropriate local  
3 WAGES coalition to provide services to WAGES participants.  
4 Eligible providers must review program and financial plans  
5 established under s. 414.028 and provide information to the  
6 local WAGES coalition serving the county in which the provider  
7 is located regarding the availability of transportation  
8 services to assist WAGES program participants.

9 (2) Costs for which public transit block grant program  
10 funds may be expended include:

11 (a) Costs of public bus transit and local public fixed  
12 guideway capital projects.

13 (b) Costs of public bus transit service development  
14 and transit corridor projects. Whenever block grant funds are  
15 used for a service development project or a transit corridor  
16 project, the use of such funds is governed by s. 341.051.

17 Local transit service development projects and transit  
18 corridor projects currently operating under contract with the  
19 department shall continue to receive state funds according to  
20 the contract until such time as the contract expires. Transit  
21 corridor projects, wholly within one county, meeting or  
22 exceeding performance criteria as described in the contract  
23 shall be continued by the transit provider at the same or a  
24 higher level of service until such time as the department, the  
25 M.P.O., and the service provider, agree to discontinue the  
26 service. The provider may not increase fares for services in  
27 transit corridor projects wholly within one county without the  
28 consent of the department.

29 (c) Costs of public bus transit operations.

30

31 All projects must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the maximum extent

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1 feasible, with the approved local government comprehensive  
2 plans of the units of local government ~~comprehensive plans of~~  
3 ~~local government~~ in which the project is located.

4 Section 13. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
5 414.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

6 414.026 WAGES Program State Board of Directors.--

7 (2)(a) The board of directors shall be composed of the  
8 following members:

- 9 1. The Commissioner of Education, or the  
10 commissioner's designee.
- 11 2. The Secretary of Children and Family Services.
- 12 3. The Secretary of Health.
- 13 4. The Secretary of Labor and Employment Security.
- 14 5. The Secretary of Community Affairs.
- 15 6. The Secretary of Transportation, or the secretary's  
16 designee.

17 ~~7.6.~~ The director of the Office of Tourism, Trade, and  
18 Economic Development.

19 ~~8.7.~~ The president of the Enterprise Florida workforce  
20 development board, established under s. 288.9620.

21 ~~9.8.~~ The chief executive officer of the Florida  
22 Tourism Industry Marketing Corporation, established under s.  
23 288.1226.

24 ~~10.9.~~ Nine members appointed by the Governor, as  
25 follows:

- 26 a. Six members shall be appointed from a list of ten  
27 nominees, of which five must be submitted by the President of  
28 the Senate and five must be submitted by the Speaker of the  
29 House of Representatives. The list of five nominees submitted  
30 by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
31 Representatives must each contain at least three individuals

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1 employed in the private sector, two of whom must have  
2 management experience. One of the five nominees submitted by  
3 the President of the Senate and one of the five nominees  
4 submitted by the Speaker of the House of Representatives must  
5 be an elected local government official who shall serve as an  
6 ex officio nonvoting member.

7           b. Three members shall be at-large members appointed  
8 by the Governor.

9           c. Of the nine members appointed by the Governor, at  
10 least six must be employed in the private sector and of these,  
11 at least five must have management experience.

12

13 The members appointed by the Governor shall be appointed to  
14 4-year, staggered terms. Within 60 days after a vacancy occurs  
15 on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy of a member  
16 appointed from the nominees submitted by the President of the  
17 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the  
18 remainder of the unexpired term from one nominee submitted by  
19 the President of the Senate and one nominee submitted by the  
20 Speaker of the House of Representatives. Within 60 days after  
21 a vacancy of a member appointed at-large by the Governor  
22 occurs on the board, the Governor shall fill the vacancy for  
23 the remainder of the unexpired term. The composition of the  
24 board must generally reflect the racial, gender, and ethnic  
25 diversity of the state as a whole.

26           Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 414.20, Florida  
27 Statutes, is amended to read:

28           414.20 Other support services.--Support services shall  
29 be provided, if resources permit, to assist participants in  
30 complying with work activity requirements outlined in s.  
31 414.065. If resources do not permit the provision of needed

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1 support services, the department and the Department of Labor  
2 and Employment Security may prioritize or otherwise limit  
3 provision of support services. This section does not  
4 constitute an entitlement to support services. Lack of  
5 provision of support services may be considered as a factor in  
6 determining whether good cause exists for failing to comply  
7 with work activity requirements but does not automatically  
8 constitute good cause for failing to comply with work activity  
9 requirements, and does not affect any applicable time limit on  
10 the receipt of temporary cash assistance or the provision of  
11 services under this chapter. Support services shall include,  
12 but need not be limited to:

13 (1) TRANSPORTATION.--Transportation expenses may be  
14 provided to any participant when the assistance is needed to  
15 comply with work activity requirements or employment  
16 requirements, including transportation to and from a child  
17 care provider. Payment may be made in cash or tokens in  
18 advance or through reimbursement paid against receipts or  
19 invoices. Transportation services may include, but are not  
20 limited to, cooperative arrangements with the following:  
21 public transit providers; community transportation  
22 coordinators designated under chapter 427; school districts,  
23 churches and community centers; donated motor vehicle  
24 programs, vanpools, and ridesharing programs; small enterprise  
25 developments and entrepreneurial programs that encourage WAGES  
26 participants to become transportation providers; public and  
27 private transportation partnerships; and other innovative  
28 strategies to expand transportation options available to  
29 program participants.

30 (a) Local WAGES coalitions are authorized to provide  
31 payment for vehicle operational and repair expenses, including

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1 repair expenditures necessary to make a vehicle functional;  
2 vehicle registration fees; driver's license fees; and  
3 liability insurance for the vehicle for a period of up to 6  
4 months. Request for vehicle repairs must be accompanied by an  
5 estimate of the cost prepared by a repair facility registered  
6 under s. 559.904.

7 (b) Transportation disadvantaged funds as defined in  
8 chapter 427 do not include WAGES support services funds that  
9 are used for the provision of transportation services for  
10 WAGES program participants. It is the intent of the  
11 Legislature that local WAGES coalitions consult with local  
12 community transportation coordinators designated under chapter  
13 427 regarding the availability and cost of transportation  
14 services through the coordinated transportation system prior  
15 to contracting for comparable transportation services outside  
16 the coordinated system. Support services funds may also be  
17 used to develop transportation resources to expand  
18 transportation options available to participants. These  
19 services may include cooperative arrangements with local  
20 transit authorities or school districts and small enterprise  
21 development.

22 Section 15. Section 414.225, Florida Statutes, is  
23 created to read:

24 414.225 Transitional Transportation.--In order to  
25 assist former WAGES participants in maintaining and sustaining  
26 employment, transportation may be provided, if funds are  
27 available, for up to 1 year after the participant is no longer  
28 eligible to participate in the program due to earnings. This  
29 does not constitute an entitlement to transitional  
30 transportation. If funds are not sufficient to provide  
31 services under this section, the department may limit or

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1 otherwise prioritize transportation services.

2 (1) Transitional transportation must be job related.

3 (2) Transitional transportation may include expenses  
4 identified in s. 414.20.

5 Section 16. Subsection (27) is added to section  
6 427.013, Florida Statutes, to read:

7 427.013 The Commission for the Transportation  
8 Disadvantaged; purpose and responsibilities.--The purpose of  
9 the commission is to accomplish the coordination of  
10 transportation services provided to the transportation  
11 disadvantaged. The goal of this coordination shall be to  
12 assure the cost-effective provision of transportation by  
13 qualified community transportation coordinators or  
14 transportation operators for the transportation disadvantaged  
15 without any bias or presumption in favor of multioperator  
16 systems or not-for-profit transportation operators over single  
17 operator systems or for-profit transportation operators. In  
18 carrying out this purpose, the commission shall:

19 (27) Ensure that local community transportation  
20 coordinators work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions  
21 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the  
22 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES  
23 participants.

24 Section 17. Subsection (9) is added to section  
25 427.0155, Florida Statutes, to read:

26 427.0155 Community transportation coordinators; powers  
27 and duties.--Community transportation coordinators shall have  
28 the following powers and duties:

29 (9) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions  
30 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the  
31 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES



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1 participants.

2 Section 18. Subsection (7) is added to section  
3 427.0157, Florida Statutes, to read:

4 427.0157 Coordinating boards; powers and duties.--The  
5 purpose of each coordinating board is to develop local service  
6 needs and to provide information, advice, and direction to the  
7 community transportation coordinators on the coordination of  
8 services to be provided to the transportation disadvantaged.  
9 The commission shall, by rule, establish the membership of  
10 coordinating boards. The members of each board shall be  
11 appointed by the metropolitan planning organization or  
12 designated official planning agency. The appointing authority  
13 shall provide each board with sufficient staff support and  
14 resources to enable the board to fulfill its responsibilities  
15 under this section. Each board shall meet at least quarterly  
16 and shall:

17 (7) Work cooperatively with local WAGES coalitions  
18 established in chapter 414 to provide assistance in the  
19 development of innovative transportation services for WAGES  
20 participants.

21  
22 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

23  
24  
25 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

26 And the title is amended as follows:

27 On page 2, line 20, after the semicolon

28  
29 insert:

30 amending s. 234.01, F.S.; authorizing school  
31 districts to provide transportation for WAGES

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1 participants; amending s. 234.211, F.S.;

2 providing for reimbursement of school

3 districts; amending s. 341.041, F.S.;

4 establishing responsibilities of the Department

5 of Transportation with respect to transit

6 services for WAGES participants; amending s.

7 341.052, F.S.; relating to duties of public

8 transit block grant recipients to coordinate

9 with local WAGES coalitions regarding

10 transportation services; deleting duplicative

11 provisions; amending s. 414.026, F.S.; revising

12 membership of the WAGES Program State Board of

13 Directors; amending s. 414.20, F.S.; clarifying

14 transportation options available to local WAGES

15 coalitions to assist WAGES participants;

16 creating s. 414.225, F.S.; providing for the

17 provision of transitional transportation for

18 former WAGES participants; amending s. 427.013,

19 F.S.; providing for the duties of the

20 Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged

21 regarding WAGES transportation; amending s.

22 427.0155, F.S.; providing for the duties of

23 community transportation coordinators regarding

24 WAGES transportation; amending s. 427.0157,

25 F.S.; providing for the duties of the local

26 coordinating boards regarding WAGES

27 transportation;

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