Florida House of Representatives - 1998 By Representative Horan

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to Monroe County; amending
3	chapter 76-441, Laws of Florida, as amended,
4	relating to the Florida Keys Aqueduct
5	Authority; providing for certain matters
б	regarding the construction, acquisition, and
7	maintaining of a wastewater system for the
8	collection, treatment, and disposal of
9	wastewater in Monroe County; providing for
10	certain matters with respect to the purchase of
11	property by the Florida Keys Aqueduct
12	Authority; providing for notification to the
13	public of the availability of the Florida Keys
14	Aqueduct Authority's annual audit; amending
15	certain provisions relating to the issuance of
16	bonds; providing an effective date.
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18	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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20	Section 1. Section 1 of chapter 76-441, Laws of
21	Florida, as amended by chapter 77-605, Laws of Florida, is
22	amended to read:
23	Section 1. Creation of Authority; boundaries
24	definedAs of September 15, 1976,the Florida Keys Aqueduct
25	Authority <u>, an independent special district, was</u> is recreated
26	and <u>thereafter was</u> shall be the successor agency to the
27	Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority which <u>was</u> is abolished by
28	chapter 76-441, Laws of Florida this act. The Florida Keys
29	Aqueduct Authority is not being recreated by this act or for
30	purposes of s. 189.404, Florida Statutes. The primary purpose
31	and function of this Authority shall be to obtain, supply, and
	1

HB 4241

distribute an adequate water supply for the Florida Keys and 1 2 to collect, treat, and dispose of wastewater in the Florida 3 Keys. The geographic jurisdiction of the Authority shall be 4 as provided in this act. The Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority 5 shall be an autonomous public body corporate and politic and 6 have perpetual existence. All lawful debts, bonds, 7 obligations, contracts, franchises, promissory notes, audits, 8 minutes, resolutions, and other undertakings of the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority are hereby validated and shall 9 continue to be valid and binding on the Florida Keys Aqueduct 10 11 Authority in accordance with their respective terms, 12 conditions, covenants, and tenor. Any proceedings heretofore 13 begun by the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority for the 14 construction of any improvements, works, or facilities; for the assessment of benefits and damages or for the borrowing of 15 16 money shall not be impaired or voided by this act but may be continued and completed in the name of the Florida Keys 17 Aqueduct Authority. The Authority shall include within its 18 19 territorial boundaries all of the lands within Monroe County, 20 but may procure water outside its boundaries for sale within 21 said boundaries, and may serve customers residing within 1 22 mile of its pipeline, from its well field at Florida City in Dade County to the territorial boundary of the Authority, and 23 24 may provide for the disposal or treatment of wastewater outside its boundaries for wastewater from within its 25 26 boundaries. 27 Section 2. Subsection (8) of section 3 of chapter 28 76-441, Laws of Florida, is amended to read: Section 3. Definitions.--Unless the context shall 29 indicate otherwise, the following words as used in this act 30 31 shall have the following meanings: 2

"Sewer system" means any plant, system, facility, 1 (8) 2 or property and additions, extensions, and improvements 3 thereto at any future time constructed or acquired as part thereof, useful or necessary or having the present capacity 4 5 for future use in connection with the collection, treatment, purification, or disposal of sewage, including without 6 7 limitation, industrial wastes resulting from any processes of 8 industry, manufacture, trade, or business or from the 9 development of any natural resources, and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing, shall include treatment 10 11 plants, pumping stations, lift stations, valve, force mains, 12 intercepting sewers, laterals, pressure lines, mains and all 13 necessary appurtenances and equipment, all sewer mains, 14 laterals, and other devices for the reception and collection of sewage from premises connected therewith, and all real and 15 16 personal property and any interest therein, rights, easements, 17 and franchises of any nature whatsoever relating to any such system and necessary or convenient for the operation thereof. 18 19 The terms "wastewater" or "wastewater system" shall be 20 construed as synonymous with the term "sewer" or "sewer system" for all purposes under this act. 21 22 Section 3. Section 6 of chapter 76-441, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 80-546, Laws of Florida, is 23 24 amended to read: 25 Section 6. Compensation of the board.--Each member 26 shall be entitled to receive for such services a fee of \$300 27 per meeting, not to exceed 3 meetings per month. In addition, 28 each board member shall receive reasonable expenses which 29 shall not be in excess of the amounts provided by law for state and county officials in chapter 112, Florida Statutes. 30 The compensation amount for the members of the board provided 31

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3

1 for in this section shall be adjusted annually based upon the 2 index provided for pursuant to s. 287.017(2), Florida 3 Statutes. Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 7 of chapter 4 5 76-441, Laws of Florida, is amended to read: Section 7. Bonds; depositories; fiscal agent; 6 7 budget.--8 (1) Each member of the board of directors shall execute a bond to the Governor in the amount of \$10,000 with a 9 qualified surety to secure their faithful performance of their 10 11 powers and duties. The board of directors shall require a 12 certified audit of the books of the Authority at least once a 13 year at the expense of the Authority. Such audit shall be 14 available for public inspection and a notice of the availability of the audit shall be published in a newspaper 15 16 published in Monroe County at least once within 6 months after the end of each fiscal year. The legislative auditor may 17 audit the Authority at any time. 18 Section 5. Subsection (3) of section 9 of chapter 19 20 76-441, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 77-604, 80-546, and 84-483, Laws of Florida, is amended to read: 21 22 Section 9. Powers of the Authority.--In addition to and not in limitation of the powers of the Authority, it shall 23 24 have the following powers: 25 (3) OWNERSHIP AND DISTRIBUTION OF PROPERTY.--TO 26 acquire property, real, personal, or mixed within or without 27 its territorial limits in fee simple or any lesser interest or 28 estate by purchase, gift, devise, or lease on such terms and 29 conditions as the board of directors may deem necessary or desirable and by condemnation (subject to limitations herein 30 31 below). The Authority shall provide information and assistance 4

to Monroe County for use in preparing its comprehensive plan 1 2 with respect to the availability of water and wastewater 3 facilities.Except in cases of emergency, or the purchase of sole source items, or when the board determines that delay 4 5 would be detrimental to the interests of the Authority, no 6 equipment shall be purchased in accordance with part I of 7 chapter 287, Florida Statutes whose purchase price exceeds 8 \$5,000 shall be purchased unless purchased upon competitive 9 bids received. All provided that the board of directors determines that the use or ownership of such property be 10 11 necessary in the furtherance of a designated lawful purpose 12 authorized under the provisions of this act. However, the 13 authority may purchase equipment or material without 14 competitive bid, regardless of price, when the manufacturer manufacturers of such equipment or material refuses to bid on 15 16 the equipment or material and the board determines that the public interest would be served, and substantial savings would 17 result, if the equipment or material were purchased directly 18 from the manufacturer. In all such cases the board shall 19 20 enter a record of such purchase in the "Record of Governing Board of Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority." The Authority is 21 22 specifically excluded from the provisions of s. 253.03(6), Florida Statutes, and has the authority to hold title to 23 property in its own name; to acquire easements or 24 25 rights-of-way, with or without restrictions, within or without 26 the limits of the Authority. The State of Florida may convey 27 to the Authority rights-of-way over any of the lands and 28 structures belonging to the State of Florida or any of its 29 agencies for the purpose of constructing, maintaining, supplying, establishing, and regulating the works and projects 30 31 involved in the wastewater system or the water supply and

5

distribution systems authorized by this act. To mortgage, 1 hold, manage, control, convey, lease, sell, grant, or 2 3 otherwise dispose of the same and any of the assets and properties of the Authority without regard to chapter 273, 4 5 Florida Statutes. б Section 6. Paragraphs (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), and (p) 7 are added to subsection (9) of section 9 of chapter 76-441, 8 Laws of Florida, to read: Section 9. Powers of the Authority. -- In addition and 9 not in limitation of the powers of the Authority, it shall 10 11 have the following powers: 12 (9) 13 (k) The Authority shall have power to contract with 14 any person, any private or public corporation, the State of Florida, or any agency, instrumentality, or county, 15 16 municipality or political subdivision thereof, or any agency, 17 instrumentality, or corporation of or created by the United States, with respect to such wastewater system or any part 18 19 thereof. The Authority shall also have power to accept and 20 receive grants or loans from the same, and in connection with any such contract, grant, or loan, to stipulate and agree to 21 22 such covenants, terms, and conditions as the governing body of the Authority shall deem appropriate. 23 24 (1) To make or cause to be made such surveys, investigations, studies, borings, maps, drawings, and 25 26 estimates of cost and revenues as it may deem necessary, and 27 to prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan or plans for the 28 location, relocation, construction, improvement, revision, and 29 development of the wastewater system. That subject to covenants or agreement with 30 (m) 31 bondholders contained in proceedings authorizing the issuance

6

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HB 4241

of bonds pursuant to this act, the Authority shall have the 1 2 power to lease said wastewater system or any part or parts thereof, to any person, firm, corporation, association, or 3 body, upon such terms and conditions and for such periods of 4 5 time as shall be determined by the governing body. The 6 Authority shall also, whenever desirable, have power to grant 7 permits or licenses in connection with any of the facilities 8 of such wastewater system, and shall have full and complete 9 power to do all things necessary and desirable for the proper and efficient administration and operation of such wastewater 10 system and all parts thereof. The Authority shall also have 11 12 power, whenever deemed necessary or desirable and subject to 13 covenants and agreements with bondholders, to lease from any 14 person, firm, corporation, association, or body, any facilities of any nature for such wastewater system. 15 16 (n) That charges shall be levied by the Authority against its own books or against Monroe County with respect to 17 providing any facilities or services rendered by such 18 19 wastewater system to the Authority or to Monroe County, or to 20 any other political subdivision or public body or agency which receives wastewater system services, or to any department or 21 22 works thereof, at the rate or rates applicable to other customers or users taking facilities or services under similar 23 24 conditions. Revenues derived from such facilities or services 25 so furnished shall be treated as all other revenues of the 26 wastewater system. 27 (o) Neither Monroe County, nor any municipality or 28 special district therein, shall exercise any present or future power, pursuant to law, to interfere with the Authority's 29 jurisdiction and operation of the wastewater system in such a 30 manner as to impair or adversely affect the covenants and 31 7

obligations of the Authority under agreement relating to its 1 2 bonds or other debts. 3 (p) The Authority shall have exclusive jurisdiction 4 over the administration, maintenance, development, and 5 provision of wastewater system services in Monroe County, with 6 the exception of the City of Key West, the City of Key Colony 7 Beach, the City of Layton, and Islamorada, Village of Islands, 8 unless such incorporated areas shall choose to grant the 9 Authority such jurisdiction, and the Authority's wastewater system authorized hereunder shall be the exclusive provider of 10 11 wastewater system services and no franchise or grant of power 12 to any other entity or provider shall be lawful unless 13 preapproved by the Authority. The Authority shall have the 14 power to regulate the use of, including prohibiting the use of 15 or mandating the use of, specific types of wastewater 16 facilities and, notwithstanding any other provisions hereof, shall be authorized to prescribe the specific type of 17 wastewater treatment facility or measures required to be 18 19 utilized within the boundaries of the Authority, including, 20 but not limited to, requiring the use of septic tanks in lieu of cess pits, the mandatory hookup to specific wastewater 21 22 treatment plants, requiring upgrades be undertaken on site wastewater systems, and any other combination of the foregoing 23 24 in order to manage effluent disposal and wastewater matters. 25 Section 7. Section 17 of chapter 76-441, Laws of 26 Florida, is amended to read: 27 Section 17. Remedies. -- Any holder of bonds issued 28 under the provisions of this act or of any of the coupons appertaining thereto, and the trustee under the trust 29 indenture, if any, except to the extent the rights herein 30 31 given may be restricted by resolution passed before the

8

issuance of the bonds or by the trust indenture, may, either 1 2 at law or in equity, by suit, action, mandamus, or other 3 proceeding, protect and enforce any and all rights under the laws of the State of Florida or granted hereunder or under 4 5 such resolution or trust indenture, and may enforce or compel performance of all duties required by this act or by such 6 7 resolution or trust indenture to be performed by the Authority 8 or any officer thereof, including the fixing, charging, and 9 collecting of rates and other charges for both water furnished by the waterworks system and wastewater treatment furnished by 10 11 the wastewater system.

Section 8. Section 28 of chapter 76-441, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 80-546 and 87-454, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

15 Section 28. Authorization and form of revenue bonds. -- Revenue bonds may be authorized by resolution of the 16 board of directors which shall be adopted by a majority of all 17 members thereof then in office. Such resolutions may be 18 adopted at the meeting subsequent to and not at the same 19 20 meeting at which they are introduced. The board may by 21 resolution authorize the issuance of revenue bonds on either a 22 negotiated or competitive bid basis, fix the aggregate amount of revenue bonds to be issued, the purpose or purposes for 23 which the moneys derived therefrom shall be expended, the rate 24 25 or rates of interest, which rate may not exceed the rate 26 authorized by general law, the denomination of bonds, whether 27 or not the bonds are to be issued in one or more series, the 28 date or dates thereof, the date or dates of maturity, which 29 shall not exceed 40 years from their respective dates of issuance, the medium of payment, place or places within or 30 31 without the state where payment shall be made, registration,

9

privileges, redemption terms and privileges (whether with or without premium), the manner of execution, the form of the bonds, including any interest coupons to be attached thereto, the manner of execution of bonds and coupons, and any and all other terms, covenants and conditions thereof, and the б establishment of reserve or other funds. Section 9. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.