1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to Charlotte County; codifying,
3	reenacting, amending, and repealing chapters
4	65-1357, 70-628, 73-430, 74-453, 84-405,
5	84-406, 88-479, and 91-399, Laws of Florida;
6	creating and establishing the Charlotte County
7	Airport Authority, an independent special
8	district; providing for membership; authorizing
9	the County of Charlotte and its incorporated
10	municipalities to contract with the airport
11	authority; providing for the government,
12	jurisdiction, powers, franchises, and
13	privileges of the airport authority; deleting
14	obsolete provisions; repealing all prior
15	special acts relating to the Charlotte County
16	Development Authority; providing an effective
17	date.
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19	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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21	Section 1. Chapters 65-1357, 70-628, 73-430, 84-405,
22	84-406, 88-479, and 91-399, Laws of Florida, are codified,
23	reenacted, amended, and repealed as herein provided.
24	Section 2. The Charlotte County Airport Authority is
25	re-created and reenacted to read:
26	Section 1. Short title This act may be cited as the
27	Charlotte County Airport Authority Act.
28	Section 2. DefinitionsAs used in this act, unless
29	the context otherwise requires:
30	(1) Commission means the Charlotte County Airport
31	Authority created by this act.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

(2) Area means the territorial limits within which the airport authority shall operate, the boundaries of which shall be coextensive with Charlotte County.

- (3) Project means and includes the acquisition of lands or any interest therein or improvements thereon, personal property of any nature or description, intangible personal property, or buildings, structures, or other improvements or facilities or any portion thereof or any interest therein, for the development, expansion, and promotion of the Charlotte County Airport and Commerce Park and the construction or acquisition of buildings, plants, industrial parks, or areas and any and all facilities relating to the development of industry, commerce, recreation, agriculture, or the natural resources of the Charlotte County Airport Authority for the purpose of selling, leasing, or renting such buildings, parks, areas, or facilities owned by the Charlotte County Airport Authority to public or private corporations, persons, or firms.
- (4) Cost of project embraces the cost of construction, the cost of all lands, properties, easements, rights, and franchises acquired, the cost of machinery and equipment, financing charges, interest prior to and during construction, cost of engineering, architectural, and legal expense, and plans and specifications and other expenses necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicability of the project, administrative expenses, and such other expenses as may be necessary or incident to the financing herein authorized for the construction of any project and placing the same in operation.

Section 3. Authority; creation and purpose.--For the purpose of performing such acts as shall be necessary for the

management, operation, maintenance, planning, and development of the Charlotte County Airport, there is hereby created and established, as an agency of Charlotte County, a public body corporate to be known as the "Charlotte County Airport Authority," hereinafter referred to as "authority" and the exercise by the authority of any of the powers conferred upon it by this act shall be deemed and held to be an essential and proper function of the county. The Charlotte County Airport Authority is an independent special district.

Section 4. Membership; appointment term of office.—The authority shall be composed of five members, one from each county commission district elected as prescribed in this section. At each general election, the members of the authority shall be elected for a term of 4 years, and shall take office immediately upon election. Election of members of the authority shall be as prescribed by the general election laws of Florida.

Section 5. Vacancies.--Each member of the authority shall hold office until his or her successor has been appointed and has qualified. A vacancy occurring during a term of an appointed or elected member shall be filled only for the balance of the unexpired term, such appointments to be made by the Governor.

Section 6. Chair, vice-chair, secretary-treasurer, and assistant secretary-treasurer.—The authority shall elect from its membership a chair and vice-chair to serve in the absence or disqualification of the chair, both to hold office at the will of the authority. The authority shall further elect from its membership a secretary-treasurer for the authority and assistant secretary-treasurer to serve in the absence or disqualification of the secretary-treasurer.

Section 7. Qualification of members.--Upon the effective date of the appointment or election of each member of the authority, or as soon thereafter as practicable, each member shall enter upon his or her duties, but before doing so, such member shall take an oath to faithfully perform the duties of office and file the same with the clerk of the circuit court, and shall execute a public official bond in the penal sum of \$100,000 payable to the authority and conditioned upon the faithful performance of the duties of his or her office, which bond shall be approved by the Clerk of the Circuit Court. The cost of the premium on all such bonds shall be paid by the authority and shall be included in its cost of operation.

Section 8. Compensation; travel expenses.--The members of the authority shall receive \$2,000 annual salary for their services as members of the authority to be paid in equal monthly payments. In addition, the authority shall have authority to pay costs and expenses incurred by the members of the authority in accordance with s. 112.061, Florida Statutes, in the performance of their duties as members.

Section 9. Quorum; transaction of business.--A majority of the membership shall constitute a quorum for all purposes, and no vacancy in the authority shall impair the right of a quorum of the authority to exercise all of the rights and perform all of the duties of the authority. The authority may meet at such times and places designated by it but shall hold regular meetings at least once each month.

Special meetings may be called upon the call of the chair or any three members of the authority.

Section 10. Powers.--The authority shall have these specific powers, in addition to other powers otherwise conferred:

(1) To sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, complain, and defend in all courts.

- (2) To adopt, use, and alter at will, a corporate seal.
- (3) To select and appoint agents and employees, including engineers, architects, builders, and attorneys, and to fix their compensation.
- (4) To borrow money for any of its corporate purposes and to execute notes, mortgages, deeds to secure debts, trust deeds, and such other instruments as may be necessary or convenient to evidence and secure such borrowing.
- (5) To issue revenue anticipation certificates for the purpose of paying all or any part of the cost of any undertaking or project of the authority authorized by law.

  Such revenue anticipation certificates shall be issued and validated under and in accordance with the applicable provisions of the laws of Florida.
- (6) To construct, acquire, establish, improve, extend, enlarge, reconstruct, reequip, maintain, repair, and operate any project as herein defined.
- (7) To acquire for any project authorized by this act by grant, purchase, gift, devise, condemnation by eminent domain proceedings, exchange or in any other manner, all property, real or personal, or any estate or interest therein, upon such terms and conditions as the authority shall by resolution fix and determine. The right of eminent domain herein conferred shall be exercised by the authority in the manner provided by law.

- (8) To issue revenue bonds, payable solely from revenues, to pay all or a part of the cost of acquisition, construction, extension, enlargement, improvement, or modernization of any project, and to pledge the revenues to secure the payment of bonds.
- (9) To enter into joint arrangements with other transportation lines, or any common carrier, if the authority shall deem it advantageous to do so.
- agreements and to do and perform all acts and deeds necessary and incidental to the performance of its duties and the exercise of its powers; to make and execute leases or agreements for the use and occupation of the property and projects under its control on such terms, conditions, and period of time as the authority may determine, and to sell and dispose of such property and projects as shall no longer be needed for the uses and purposes of the authority on such terms and conditions as shall be prescribed by resolution of the authority.
- (11) To the extent permitted by law, to fix, regulate, and collect rates and charges for the services and facilities furnished by any project under its control, to establish, limit, and control the use of any project as may be deemed necessary to ensure the proper operation of the project; to impose sanctions to promote and enforce compliance with any rule or regulation which the authority may adopt in the regulation of the projects under its control.
- (12) To fix the rates of warehousing, storage, and terminal charges for the use of the airport facilities of the Charlotte County Airport.

(13) To solicit all business and do all things necessary or advisable to promote commerce and increase activity at the Charlotte County Airport.

- (14) To receive and accept from any federal or state agency, grants for, or in aid of, the construction, improvement, or operation of any project and to receive and accept contributions from any source of either money, property, labor, or other things of value.
- (15) To make any and all applications required by the treasury department and other departments or agencies of the United States government as a condition precedent to the establishment within the county of a free port, foreign trade zone, or area for the reception from foreign countries of articles of commerce and to expedite and encourage foreign commerce, and the handling, processing, and delivery thereof into foreign commerce free from the payment of custom duties and to enter into any agreements required by such departments or agencies in connection therewith and to make like applications and agreements with respect to the establishment within said county of one or more bonded warehouses.
- (16) To enter into any contract with the State of Florida, the government of the United States or any agency of said governments which may be necessary in order to produce assistance, appropriations, and aid for the construction, enlargement, or improvement of the Charlotte County Airport.
- investigations, studies, borings, maps, plans, drawings, and estimates of cost and revenues as it may deem necessary and may prepare and adopt a comprehensive plan or plans, for the location, construction, improvement, and development of any project.

(18) To grant nonexclusive franchise to persons, firms, or corporations for the operation of aeronautical and nonaeronautical leases and other concessions in, on, and in connection with, any project owned and operated by the authority. In granting such franchise, it shall be the duty of the authority to investigate and consider the qualifications and ability of the lessee or concessionaires to provide or perform the contemplated services for the public using the facilities and the revenues which will be derived therefrom by the authority and to exercise sound prudent business judgment on behalf of the authority with respect thereto, calling for bids when practicable and when the interests of the public will best be served by such action.

others for the supplying by said utility companies or others of water, sewer, electricity, and/or telephone service to or in connection with any project or to own, lease, construct, and maintain any or all utilities, including the supplying of gas, water, electricity, sewer, telephone, or other services reasonably related to such utilities.

arising from the operation of any project or projects owned and operated by the authority to the payment of the cost of operation, maintenance, repair, improvement, extension, and/or enlargement of the project or projects from the operation of which such revenues are received and for the payment of principal and interest on bonds issued in connection with any such project or projects constructed or acquired by the authority under the provisions of this act. In any such case the authority may adopt separate budgets for the operation of such project or projects. In every such case such revenues

shall be expended exclusively for the payment of the costs of operation, maintenance, repair, improvement, extension, and 2 3 enlargement of the project or projects from the operation of which such revenues arise, for the performance of the 4 5 authority's contracts in connection with such project or 6 projects, and for the payment of principal and interest 7 requirements of any bond issued in connection with the project 8 or projects. Any surplus of such funds remaining on hand at 9 the end of any year shall be carried forward and may be expended in the succeeding year for the payment of the costs 10 of operation of such project or projects or for the repair, 11 12 improvement, and/or extension thereof as the authority may determine, unless such surplus has been pledged for the 13 14 payment of principal and interest on bonds, as authorized in subsection 21, in which event any such surplus shall be 15 applied in accordance with the resolution pledging same. 16 17 (21)(a) The authority is authorized to issue general obligation bonds or revenue bonds of said authority for the 18 19 purpose of paying all or a part of the cost of any one or more 20 projects as herein defined, including the cost of enlargement, 21 expansion, and/or development of such project whether the property used therefor has previously been acquired or not and 22 23 the cost of removing therefrom and/or relocating or reconstructing at another location any buildings, structures, 24 25 or facilities, which in the opinion of such authority 26 constitute obstructions or hazards to the safe or efficient operation of any such project, and for the purpose of paying 27 28 off and retiring any bonds issued or assumed under the 29 provisions of this act. 30 The bonds of each issue shall be authorized by resolution of the authority and shall be dated, shall bear 31

interest at such rate or rates not exceeding that amount that 2 may be authorized from time to time by the general laws of 3 Florida, shall mature, at such time or times not exceeding 40 years from their date or dates, as may be determined by the 4 5 authority, and may be made redeemable before maturity, at the 6 option of the authority, at such price or prices and under 7 such terms and conditions as may be fixed by the authority 8 prior to the issuance of the bonds. The authority shall 9 determine the form of bonds, including any interest coupons to be attached thereto, and the manner of execution of the bonds, 10 and shall fix the denomination or denominations of the bonds 11 12 and the place or places of payment of principal and interest, 13 which may be at any bank or trust company within or without 14 the state. The resolution authorizing the issuance of the 15 bonds shall contain such provisions relating to the use of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds and for the protection and 16 17 security of holders of the bonds, including their rights and remedies, and the rights, powers, privileges, duties, and 18 19 obligations of the authority with respect to the same, as 20 shall be determined by the authority. In case any officer 21 whose signature or facsimile of whose signature shall appear on any bonds or coupons shall cease to be such officer before 22 the delivery of the bonds, the signature or facsimile shall 23 nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all purposes the same 24 as if he or she had remained in office until such delivery. 25 26 All bonds issued under the provisions of this act shall have 27 and are hereby declared to have all the qualities and 28 incidents of negotiable instruments under the negotiable 29 instruments law of the state. The bonds may be issued in coupon or in registered form, or both, as the authority may 30 determine, and provisions may be made for the registration of 31

any coupon bonds as to principal alone and also as to both principal and interest and for the reconversion into coupon bonds of any bonds registered as to both principal and interest. The issuance of such bonds shall not be subject to any limitations or conditions contained in any other law.

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- (c) Prior to any sale of bonds, the authority shall cause notice to be given by publication in some daily newspaper published and having a general circulation in the county that the authority will receive bids for the purchase of the bonds at the office of the authority in the county. The notice shall be published twice and the first publication shall be given not less than 15 days prior to the date set for receiving the bids. The notice shall specify the amount of the bonds offered for sale and shall state that the bids shall be sealed bids and shall give the schedule of the maturities of the proposed bonds and such other pertinent information as may be prescribed in the resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or any resolution subsequent thereto. Bidders may be invited to name the rate or rates of interest which the bonds are to bear or the authority may name rates of interest and invite bids thereon. In addition to publication of notice of the proposed sale the authority pursuant to general law, shall also give notice in writing of the proposed sale enclosing a copy of such advertisement to at least three recognized bond dealers in the state, such notices to be given not less than 10 days prior to the date set for receiving bids.
- (d) All bonds and refunding bonds issued pursuant to this chapter shall be sold at public sale and shall be awarded to the bidder whose bid produces the lowest net interest cost to the authority. The net interest cost of bids shall be

determined by taking the aggregate amount of interest at the rate or rates specified in the bids, computed from the date of the bonds to the date of the various stated maturities thereof, and deducting therefrom the amount of any premium offered in excess of the par value of the bonds or adding thereto the amount of any discount offered below the par value of the bonds, with interest computed on a 360-day-year basis. The authority shall reserve the right to reject any or all bids. In no event shall said bonds be sold at a net interest cost to the authority in excess of 6 percent per annum. Pending the preparation of definitive bonds, interim bonds may be issued to the purchaser or purchasers of such bonds and may contain such terms and conditions as the authority may determine.

(e) The authority shall require all bidders for said bonds to enclose a certified or bank cashiers check, in the amount of 2 percent of the total par value of the bonds offered for sale, drawn on an incorporated bank or trust company payable unconditionally to the order of the authority as a guarantee of good faith in the performance of each bid; the checks of the unsuccessful bidders shall be returned immediately upon the award of the bonds and the check of the successful bidder shall be retained by the authority and credited against the full purchase price of the bonds at the time of delivery or retained as, and for, liquidated damages in case of the failure of such bidder to fulfill the terms of his or her bid.

(f) No general obligation bonds shall be issued hereunder unless the issuance of such bonds shall have been approved by a majority of the votes cast in an election in which all freeholders residing in Charlotte County who are

qualified to vote in such election may participate. Whenever the authority by resolution requests the Board of County

Commissioners of Charlotte County to hold such an election, the board shall, on behalf of the authority, hold, conduct, canvass, and announce the results of such election in accordance with the procedure prescribed by law for the issuance of county bonds. The expenses of such election shall be paid by the authority.

- (22) To borrow money and to issue notes for any purpose or purposes for which bonds may be issued under the provisions of this act and to refund the same; to issue notes in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds of the sale of any such bonds.
- (23) To do all other acts and things necessary or proper in the exercise of the powers herein granted.

  Section 11. Power to levy taxes.--
- (a) It shall be the duty of the Board of County
  Commissioners of Charlotte County to levy an annual tax on all
  taxable real and personal property in such county in an amount
  to be fixed by said authority and certified to said board,
  sufficient to meet the sinking fund requirement for the
  payment of the interest and principal on any general
  obligation bonds issued by the authority as the same shall
  become due, which amount, however, shall not exceed .75 mill.
  This levy shall be in addition to the annual levy hereinafter
  specified for development and authority purposes.
- (b) For the payment of the principal of the interest on any general obligation bonds of the authority issued under the provisions of this act, the Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County shall levy annually in the manner hereinafter provided a tax upon all taxable real and personal

property within the county, subject to the limitations prescribed above, sufficient to pay such principal and interest as the same respectively become due and payable and the proceeds of all such taxes shall when collected and received by the authority be paid into a special fund and used for no other purpose than the payment of such principal and interest; however, there may be pledged to the payment of such principal and interest the surplus of the revenues of the project or projects, after payment of the costs of operation, maintenance, and repair thereof.

- (c) The levy, collection, and expenditure of such taxes is hereby declared to be for a lawful county purpose.
- and when collected, remit all moneys collected under the taxes hereby authorized to the authority which shall deposit the same in a bank or banks qualified as depositories of public funds to be designated by such authority. Certified copies of tax resolutions executed in the name of the authority by its chair, and attested by its secretary, under its corporate seal, shall immediately be delivered to the Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County.
- (e) The property appraiser, tax collector, and Board of County Commissioners of Charlotte County shall, when requested by the authority, prepare from their official records and deliver to the authority any and all information that may be requested at any time regarding the tax valuations, levies, assessments, or collections in such county.

Section 12. Bonds eligible for legal investment.--Notwithstanding any provisions of any other law or laws to the contrary, all revenue bonds, general obligation

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bonds, or any combination of general obligation or revenue
    bonds, including refunding bonds, issued pursuant to this act
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    shall constitute legal investments for savings banks, banks,
    unit companies, executors, administrators, trustees,
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    guardians, and other fiduciaries, and for any board, body,
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    agency, or instrumentality of the state or of any county
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    municipality, or other political subdivision of the state; and
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    shall be eligible as security for deposits of state, county,
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    municipal, and other public funds.
           Section 13. Declaration of purpose. -- The authority
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    created by this act and the purposes which it is intended to
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    serve are hereby found to be for a county and public purpose.
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           Section 14. Transfer of city and county projects .-- The
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    County of Charlotte or any municipality or any other person,
    firm, or corporation, is empowered and authorized to sell,
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    lease, lend, grant, or convey to the authority, any real, or
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   personal property, or any interest therein, with or without
    consideration, which might be used by the authority in the
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    discharge of any of the powers or privileges granted by law.
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    The County of Charlotte or any municipality therein or any
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    other person, firm, or corporation, is authorized to transfer,
    assign, and set over to the authority any contract or
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    contracts, leases, mortgages, or other agreements heretofore
    made or executed by such county, city, or other person, with
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    or without consideration. The County of Charlotte and all
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    incorporated cities therein are expressly authorized to
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    contract with the authority for any purpose authorized by the
   provision of this act.
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           Section 15. Taxation of airport authority
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   property. -- The authority shall not be required to pay any
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taxes or assessments of any kind or nature whatsoever upon property belonging to the authority.

Section 16. Annual audit.--The books and records of the authority shall be audited at least annually, at the expense of the authority, by a certified public accountant. The authority shall furnish a copy of audit report to the board of county commissioners annually, and such audit shall be in lieu of any further audit required by any general or special law.

Section 17. Expenditure of funds.--Moneys of the authority shall be deemed to be trust funds to be held and applied solely for the purposes authorized by law. The authority is authorized to receive moneys in its name, and all moneys drawn from depository shall be upon checks or warrants issued by the authority, and the checks or warrants so drawn shall be signed by the chair or vice-chair of the authority and attested by the secretary-treasurer or in his or her absence by the assistant secretary-treasurer, and the seal of the authority shall be affixed or printed thereon.

Section 18. Acquisition or disposal of property.--Contracts may be let by the authority for the construction of any building or other facility, or the acquisition of any real or personal property, or the purchase of any goods, supplies, materials, or services for authority purposes on such terms and subject to such conditions as the authority shall determine to be in the best interests of the authority. The authority is expressly authorized to sell and convey any property, real or personal, belonging to the authority, whenever the authority shall determine that it is in the best interests of the authority to do so in accordance with FAA requirements and guidelines. The authority shall, by

resolution, fix and determine rules and regulations relating 1 to advertisement for bids, manner of bidding, and a maximum 2 3 amount below which same would not be required. The authority 4 may cooperate with the state, county, or any other 5 governmental agency for the purchase of such goods, supplies, 6 or materials on such terms and subject to such conditions as 7 the authority shall determine to be in the best interests of the authority. 8 9 Section 19. Termination of authority.--If for any 10 reason, the authority shall terminate, be terminated or cease operation or existence for any cause or reason, then, upon 11 12 such termination or cessation, title to all property, real, personal or mixed, tangible or intangible of whatever kind, 13 14 and wheresoever located, shall immediately vest in the county, 15 which by and through the board, is hereby authorized to exercise any and all powers herein granted to the authority 16 17 for the purposes herein expressed. 18 Section 3. The provisions of this act shall be 19 severable, and if any of the provisions hereof shall be held 20 to be unconstitutional or invalid, such determination shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of any of the 21 remaining provisions of this act. 22 23 Section 4. Except as specifically reenacted herein, chapters 65-1357, 70-628, 73-430, 74-453, 84-405, 84-406, 24 88-479, and 91-399, Laws of Florida, are repealed. 25 26 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 27 law. 28 29 30

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