

# SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

BILL: SB 1118

SPONSOR: Senator Mitchell

SUBJECT: Research and Development Authorities

DATE: March 15, 2000                      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Bowman</u>	<u>Yeatman</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
2.	<u>Schmeling</u>	<u>Maclure</u>	<u>CM</u>	<u>Favorable</u>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

This bill changes the membership of the research and development authority that oversees the park in which the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory is located. Specifically, it eliminates those ex officio members designated by the Director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory, the State University System, and the Legislature.

This bill amends section 159.703, Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

Subsection (3) of s. 159.703, F.S., establishes the membership of local research and development authorities. These authorities are made up of not less than five individuals who are residents and electors of, or are employed in, the county in which the research and development authority is located. Of the first members appointed, one serves for 1 year, one for 2 years, one for 3 years, and those remaining for 4 years, until a successor has been appointed and has qualified. Thereafter, the board must appoint, for terms of 4 years each, a member or members to succeed those whose terms expire. In addition to the other members, the president of each affiliated institution of higher education, or the president's designee, must be a member of the authority and shall serve ex officio.

In 1991, subsection (3) of s. 159.703, F.S., was amended to include a provision pertaining to the membership of a research and development authority affiliated with the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory. For such authority, the first two vacancies that occurred on its board on or after July 1, 1991, would not be filled. Instead, membership of this authority includes the members stated above (with the reduced citizen membership of three instead of five citizen members), as well as the Chancellor of the State University System or the Chancellor's designee, the Director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory or the director's designee, one resident of the county in which the research development park is located appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the President of the Senate, and one resident of the county in which the research development

park is located appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives. These specified members of the authority shall serve as ex officio members of the authority.

The board must fill any vacancy for an expired term, except for those members who serve ex officio. A member of the authority is eligible for reappointment and may be removed by the board for misconduct or neglect of duty. Each member is required to take the oath required by the State Constitution and a record of this oath will be filed with the Department of State and with the clerk of the circuit court.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The bill changes the membership of the authority that oversees the research and development park in which the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory is located. More specifically, it eliminates the requirement that the authority's membership include the Chancellor of the State University System or his designee, the Director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory or his designee, and the two members appointed by the Legislature (one by the Senate President and one by the Speaker).

In effect, this bill conforms the research and development authority located in Leon County with the authority membership of all other research and development authorities by removing from the board as ex officio members the Chancellor of the State University System or his designee, the Director of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory or his designee, and the two members appointed by the Legislature, and reinstating the two citizen seats which were not filled after July 1, 1991.

### **IV. Constitutional Issues:**

#### **A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:**

None.

#### **B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:**

None.

#### **C. Trust Funds Restrictions:**

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

None.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.

**VIII. Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate staff analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's sponsor or the Florida Senate.

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