

By Representative Prieguez

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to safe neighborhood  
3           improvement districts; amending s. 163.340,  
4           F.S.; including university police patrols  
5           within a definition; amending s. 163.503, F.S.;  
6           revising certain definitions; amending s.  
7           163.5035, F.S.; providing for exercise by  
8           university police patrols of law enforcement  
9           powers within safe neighborhood improvement  
10          districts; amending s. 163.506, F.S.; providing  
11          for qualifications of certain safe neighborhood  
12          improvement district boards of directors;  
13          specifying that university police patrol  
14          officers are state law enforcement officers;  
15          providing requirements; amending s. 163.5151,  
16          F.S.; authorizing certain interlocal agreements  
17          for certain purposes; creating s. 163.5235,  
18          F.S.; authorizing safe neighborhood improvement  
19          districts to enter into certain interlocal  
20          agreements for certain purposes; providing an  
21          effective date.

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

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25           Section 1. Subsection (23) of section 163.340, Florida  
26 Statutes, is amended to read:

27           163.340 Definitions.--The following terms, wherever  
28 used or referred to in this part, have the following meanings:

29           (23) "Community policing innovation" means a policing  
30 technique or strategy designed to reduce crime by reducing  
31 opportunities for, and increasing the perceived risks of

1 engaging in, criminal activity through visible presence of  
2 police in the community, including, but not limited to,  
3 community mobilization, neighborhood block watch, citizen  
4 patrol, university police patrol as defined in s. 163.503,  
5 citizen contact patrol, foot patrol, neighborhood storefront  
6 police stations, field interrogation, or intensified motorized  
7 patrol.

8 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 163.503, Florida  
9 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to said  
10 section, to read:

11 163.503 Safe neighborhoods; definitions.--

12 (1) "Safe neighborhood improvement district,"  
13 "district," or "neighborhood improvement district" means a  
14 district located in an area in which more than 75 percent of  
15 the land is used for residential purposes, or in an area in  
16 which more than 75 percent of the land is used for commercial,  
17 office, business, postsecondary educational, or industrial  
18 purposes, excluding the land area used for public facilities,  
19 and where there is a plan to reduce crime through the  
20 implementation of crime prevention through environmental  
21 design, environmental security, or defensible space  
22 techniques, or through community policing innovations or use  
23 of a university police patrol. Nothing in this section shall  
24 preclude the inclusion of public land in a neighborhood  
25 improvement district although the amount of land used for  
26 public facilities is excluded from the land use acreage  
27 calculations.

28 (10) "University police patrol" means a police patrol  
29 having law enforcement powers which services a safe  
30 neighborhood improvement district coterminous with the  
31 boundaries of the campus of a nonpublic university or college

1 with enrollment in excess of 10,000 full-time students  
2 attending classes within the boundaries of said district and  
3 which is funded by such university or college or such other  
4 funding sources as authorized by law.

5 Section 3. Section 163.5035, Florida Statutes, is  
6 amended to read:

7 163.5035 Safe neighborhood improvement districts;  
8 compliance with special district provisions.--Any special  
9 district created pursuant to this part shall comply with all  
10 applicable provisions contained in chapter 189. In cases  
11 where a provision contained in this part conflicts with a  
12 provision in chapter 189, the provision in chapter 189 shall  
13 prevail. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or  
14 chapter 189, a university police patrol created by a safe  
15 neighborhood improvement district authorized under part IV may  
16 exercise law enforcement powers within such district.

17 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 163.506, Florida  
18 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to said  
19 section, to read:

20 163.506 Local government neighborhood improvement  
21 districts; creation; advisory council; dissolution.--

22 (3) As an alternative to designating the local  
23 governing body as the board of directors, a majority of the  
24 local governing body of a city or county may appoint a board  
25 of three to seven directors for the district who shall be  
26 residents of the proposed area and who are subject to ad  
27 valorem taxation in the residential neighborhood improvement  
28 district or who are property owners in a commercial  
29 neighborhood improvement district. Notwithstanding this  
30 section, the board of directors of a neighborhood improvement  
31 district which has a university police patrol shall have

1 qualifications as set forth in the ordinance creating the  
2 district or any amendments to such ordinance.The directors  
3 shall be appointed for staggered terms of 3 years. The  
4 initial appointments shall be as follows: one director for a  
5 1-year term; one director for a 2-year term; and one director  
6 for a 3-year term. If more than three directors are to be  
7 appointed, the additional members shall initially be appointed  
8 for 3-year terms. Vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired  
9 portion of a term in the same manner as the initial  
10 appointments were made. Each director shall hold office until  
11 his or her successor is appointed and qualified unless the  
12 director ceases to be qualified or is removed from office.  
13 Upon appointment and qualification and in January of each  
14 year, the directors shall organize by electing from their  
15 number a chair and a secretary.

16 (5) All individuals who are police officers comprising  
17 a university police patrol are law enforcement officers of  
18 this state with the right to make arrests and bear arms and  
19 shall meet the standards established by the Criminal Justice  
20 Standards and Training Commission and be certified as law  
21 enforcement officers by such commission. Such individuals who  
22 are police officers shall be considered employees of the  
23 district.

24 Section 5. Subsection (5) is added to section  
25 163.5151, Florida Statutes, to read:

26 163.5151 Fiscal management; budget preparation.--

27 (5) Notwithstanding this section, the budget and  
28 fiscal matters pertaining to a safe neighborhood district  
29 having a university police patrol may be prescribed by  
30 interlocal agreement between the district and the local  
31 governing body.

1           Section 6. Section 163.5235, Florida Statutes, is  
2 created to read:  
3           163.5235 Interlocal agreements.--A safe neighborhood  
4 improvement district with a university police patrol may enter  
5 into an interlocal agreement pursuant to s. 163.01 with the  
6 unit of local government which created the district and any  
7 other unit of local government pertaining to the operation of  
8 the district, which agreement may include provisions regarding  
9 mutual aid, cooperation, sharing of resources, budgeting, and  
10 financial assistance.

11           Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
12 law.

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15           HOUSE SUMMARY

16           Defines university police patrol with respect to safe  
17 neighborhood improvement districts, specifies that such  
18 university police patrol officers are state law  
19 enforcement officers, provides for exercise of law  
20 enforcement powers by university police patrols within  
21 safe neighborhood improvement districts, and authorizes  
22 safe neighborhood improvement districts with a university  
23 police patrol to enter into interlocal agreements for  
24 specified purposes. See bill for details.  
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