

STORAGE NAME: h0987.ca
DATE: February 28, 2000

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
ANALYSIS - LOCAL LEGISLATION**

BILL #: HB 987
RELATING TO: Lake Region Lakes Management District
SPONSOR(S): Representative Alexander
TIED BILL(S): None

ORIGINATING COMMITTEE(S)/COMMITTEE(S) OF REFERENCE:

- (1) COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (PRC)
 - (2)
 - (3)
 - (4)
 - (5)
-

I. SUMMARY:

This bill modifies the current boundaries of the Lake Region Lakes Management District, to include the city of Lake Alfred.

As indicated in the Economic Impact Statement, District revenues are expected to increase.

II. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS:

A. DOES THE BILL SUPPORT THE FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Less Government</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. <u>Lower Taxes</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. <u>Individual Freedom</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. <u>Personal Responsibility</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. <u>Family Empowerment</u> | Yes <input type="checkbox"/> | No <input type="checkbox"/> | N/A <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain:

B. PRESENT SITUATION:

The Winter Haven Lake Region Boat Course District was created as a public corporation by special act, chapter 8378, Laws of Florida, 1919. The charter of the District was substantially revised in chapter 90-499, Laws of Florida. At that time, the name of the district was changed to the Lake Region Lakes Management District (Lake Region Lakes) and was established as an independent special district.

Lake Region Lakes controls a chain of 16 lakes joined together through navigable canals. They also control 36 independent lakes which are joined together with drainage systems. Lake Region Lakes operates 9 water control structures (dams and pipes with sluice gates). They have the authority to acquire, construct, operate, maintain and protect a system of boat canals, dams, locks and other proper and necessary works, in connection therewith, for the purpose of protecting, maintaining and improving the water quality in the lakes and canals, and promoting access to the lakes and the public convenience, utility and welfare.

C. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

The bill changes the boundaries of the District by including other lake areas; specifically the entire city of Lake Alfred will become part of the District. The Economic Impact Statement indicates an economic benefit through improved drainage, increased lake access by the public, and a boost in marine related business.

D. SECTION-BY-SECTION ANALYSIS:

Section 1: Describes the purpose and boundaries of the district. Adds territory to the District.

Section 2: Provides that the bill takes effect upon becoming law.

III. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN? November 18, 1999

WHERE? News Chief; Winter Haven, Florida

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes No

IF YES, WHEN?

C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached No

D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached No

IV. COMMENTS:

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES:

N/A

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY:

N/A

C. OTHER COMMENTS:

As indicated on the Economic Impact Statement, it is estimated that about \$38,000 in revenue will be generated from new business. This estimate comes from an analysis of tax data from the Polk County Property Appraiser's Office.

Section 9 of Chapter 90-499, Laws of Florida, Lake Region Lakes Management District, provides for the levy, assessment, and collection of taxes by the district. So, any current and future property owners will be subject to ad valorem taxation.

Roger Griffiths, District Manager with the Lake Region Lakes Management District, indicated that at each of the three advertised public hearings, ad valorem taxation was discussed. Besides providing notice of the hearings through the newspaper, they also sent out a mailing targeted to those who may have missed the notices. At the end of the third meeting, the resolution passed.

V. AMENDMENTS OR COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES:

None

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VI. SIGNATURES:

COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Prepared by:

Staff Director:

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Joan Highsmith-Smith