

Bill No. CS for SB 480

Amendment No.      Barcode 754488

<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
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Senator Laurent moved the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 17, between lines 30 and 31,

insert:

Section 9. Section 341.8201, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

341.8201 Short title.--Sections 341.8201-341.843 may be cited as the "Florida High-Speed Rail Authority Act."

Section 10. Section 341.8202, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

341.8202 Legislative findings, policy, purpose, and intent.--

(1) The intent of this act is to implement the purpose of s. 19, Art. X of the State Constitution, which directs the Legislature, the Cabinet and the Governor to proceed with the development, either by the state or an approved private entity, of a high-speed monorail, fixed guideway, or magnetic levitation system, capable of speeds in excess of 120 miles per hour. The development of such a system, which will link

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1 Florida's five largest urban areas as defined in this act,  
2 includes acquisition of right-of-way and the financing of  
3 design and construction with construction beginning on or  
4 before November 1, 2003. Further, this act promotes the  
5 various growth management and environmental protection laws  
6 enacted by the Legislature and encourages and enhances the  
7 establishment of a high-speed rail system. The Legislature  
8 further finds that:

9       (a) The implementation of a high-speed rail system in  
10 the state will result in overall social and environmental  
11 benefits, improvements in ambient air quality, better  
12 protection of water quality, greater preservation of wildlife  
13 habitat, less use of open space, and enhanced conservation of  
14 natural resources and energy.

15       (b) A high-speed rail system, when developed in  
16 conjunction with sound land use planning, becomes an integral  
17 part in achieving growth management goals and encourages the  
18 use of public transportation to augment and implement land use  
19 and growth management goals and objectives.

20       (c) Development and utilization of a properly  
21 designed, constructed, and financed high-speed rail system and  
22 associated development can act as a catalyst for economic  
23 growth and development, mitigate unduly long and  
24 traffic-congested commutes for day-to-day commuters, create  
25 new employment opportunities, serve as a positive growth  
26 management system for building a better and more  
27 environmentally secure state, and serve a paramount public  
28 purpose by promoting the health, safety, and welfare of the  
29 citizens of the state.

30       (d) Transportation benefits of a high-speed rail  
31 system include improved travel times and more reliable travel,

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1 which will increase productivity and energy efficiency in the  
2 state.

3 (2) The Legislature further finds that:

4 (a) Access to timely and efficient modes of passenger  
5 transportation is necessary for travelers, visitors, and  
6 day-to-day commuters, to the quality of life in the state, and  
7 to the economy of the state.

8 (b) Technological advances in the state's  
9 transportation system can significantly and positively affect  
10 the ability of the state to attract and provide efficient  
11 services for domestic and international tourists and therefore  
12 increase revenue of the state.

13 (c) The geography of the state is suitable for the  
14 construction and efficient operation of a high-speed rail  
15 system.

16 (d) The public use of the high-speed rail system must  
17 be encouraged and assured in order to achieve the public  
18 purpose and objectives set forth in this act. In order to  
19 encourage the public use of the high-speed rail system and to  
20 protect the public investment in the system, it is necessary  
21 to provide an environment surrounding each high-speed rail  
22 station which will allow the development of associated  
23 development for the purpose of creating revenue in support of  
24 and for the high-speed rail system, enhance the safe movement  
25 of pedestrians and traffic into and out of the area, ensure  
26 the personal safety of high-speed rail system and related  
27 facility users and their personal property while the users are  
28 in the area of each station, and eliminate all conditions in  
29 the vicinity which constitute economic and social impediments  
30 and barriers to the use of the high-speed rail system and  
31 associated development.

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1           (e) Areas surrounding certain proposed high-speed rail  
2 stations can, as a result of existing conditions, crime, and  
3 traffic congestion, pose a serious threat to the use of the  
4 high-speed rail system, reduce revenue from users, discourage  
5 pedestrian and traffic ingress and egress, retard sound growth  
6 and development, impair public investment, and consume an  
7 excessive amount of public revenues in the employment of  
8 police and other forms of public protection to adequately  
9 safeguard the high-speed rail system and its users. Such areas  
10 may require redevelopment, acquisition, clearance, or  
11 disposition, or joint public and private development to  
12 provide parking facilities, retail establishments,  
13 restaurants, hotels, or office facilities associated with or  
14 ancillary to the high-speed rail system and rail stations and  
15 to otherwise provide for an environment that will encourage  
16 the use of, and safeguard, the system.

17           (f) The powers conferred by this act are for public  
18 uses and purposes as established by s. 19, Art. X of the State  
19 Constitution for which public funds may be expended, and the  
20 necessity in the public interest for the provisions herein  
21 enacted is hereby declared as a matter of legislative  
22 determination to implement the intent of s. 19, Art. X of the  
23 State Constitution.

24           (g) Urban and social benefits include revitalization  
25 of economically depressed areas, the redirection of growth in  
26 a carefully and comprehensively planned manner, and the  
27 creation of numerous employment opportunities within  
28 inner-city areas.

29           (h) The provisions contained in this act are a  
30 declaration of legislative intent that the state develop a  
31 high-speed rail system to help solve transportation problems

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1 and eliminate their negative effect on the citizens of this  
2 state, and therefore serves a public purpose.

3 (i) Joint development is a necessary planning,  
4 financing, management, operation, and construction mechanism  
5 to ensure the continued future development of an efficient and  
6 economically viable high-speed rail system in this state.

7 (3) It is the intent of the Legislature to authorize  
8 the authority to implement innovative mechanisms required to  
9 effect the joint public-private venture approach to planning,  
10 locating, permitting, managing, financing, constructing,  
11 operating, and maintaining a high-speed rail system for the  
12 state, including providing incentives for revenue generation,  
13 operation, construction, and management by the private sector.

14 Section 11. Section 341.8203, Florida Statutes, is  
15 created to read:

16 341.8203 Definitions.--As used in this act, unless the  
17 context clearly indicates otherwise, the term:

18 (1) "Associated development" means property,  
19 equipment, buildings, or other ancillary facilities which are  
20 built, installed, or established to provide financing,  
21 funding, or revenues for the planning, building, managing, and  
22 operation of a high-speed rail system and which are associated  
23 with or part of the rail stations. The term includes property,  
24 including air rights, necessary for joint development, such as  
25 parking facilities, retail establishments, restaurants,  
26 hotels, offices, or other commercial, civic, residential, or  
27 support facilities, and may also include property necessary to  
28 protect or preserve the rail station area by reducing urban  
29 blight or traffic congestion or property necessary to  
30 accomplish any of the purposes set forth in this subsection  
31 which are reasonably anticipated or necessary.

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1           (2) "Authority" means the Florida High-Speed Rail  
2 Authority and its agents.

3           (3) "Central Florida" means the counties of Lake,  
4 Seminole, Orange, Osceola, Citrus, Sumter, Volusia, Brevard,  
5 Hernando, Pasco, Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Polk.

6           (4) "DBOM contract" means the document and all  
7 concomitant rights approved by the authority providing the  
8 selected person or entity the exclusive right to design,  
9 build, operate, and maintain a high-speed rail system.

10           (5) "DBOM & F contract" means the document and all  
11 concomitant rights approved by the authority providing the  
12 selected person or entity the exclusive right to design,  
13 build, operate, maintain, and finance a high-speed rail  
14 system.

15           (6) "High-speed rail system" means any high-speed  
16 fixed guideway system for transporting people or goods, which  
17 system is capable of operating at speeds in excess of 120  
18 miles per hour, including, but not limited to, a monorail  
19 system, dual track rail system, suspended rail system,  
20 magnetic levitation system, pneumatic repulsion system, or  
21 other system approved by the authority. The term includes a  
22 corridor and structures essential to the operation of the  
23 line, including the land, structures, improvements,  
24 rights-of-way, easements, rail lines, rail beds, guideway  
25 structures, stations, platforms, switches, yards, parking  
26 facilities, power relays, switching houses, rail stations,  
27 associated development, and any other facilities or equipment  
28 used or useful for the purposes of high-speed rail system  
29 design, construction, operation, maintenance, or the financing  
30 of the high-speed rail system.

31           (7) "Joint development" means the planning, managing,

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1 financing, or constructing of projects adjacent to,  
2 functionally related to, or otherwise related to a high-speed  
3 rail system pursuant to agreements between any person, firm,  
4 corporation, association, organization, agency, or other  
5 entity, public or private.

6 (8) "Northeast Florida" means the counties of Nassau,  
7 Duval, Clay, St. Johns, Putnam, Alachua, Marion, and Flagler.

8 (9) "Northwest Florida" means the counties of  
9 Escambia, Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, Walton, Holmes, Washington,  
10 Jackson, Gadsden, Bay, Calhoun, Liberty, Gulf, Franklin, Leon,  
11 Jefferson, Madison, Wakulla, Taylor, Hamilton, Suwannee,  
12 Columbia, Baker, Union, Lafayette, Gilchrist, Dixie, Bradford,  
13 and Levy.

14 (10) "Rail station," "station," or "high-speed rail  
15 station" means any structure or transportation facility that  
16 is part of a high-speed rail system designed to accommodate  
17 the movement of passengers from one mode of transportation to  
18 another at which passengers board or disembark from  
19 transportation conveyances and transfer from one mode of  
20 transportation to another.

21 (11) "Selected person or entity" means the person or  
22 entity to whom the authority awards a contract under s.  
23 341.834 to establish a high-speed rail system pursuant to this  
24 act.

25 (12) "Southeast Florida" means the counties of  
26 Broward, Monroe, Miami-Dade, Indian River, St. Lucie, Martin,  
27 Okeechobee, and Palm Beach.

28 (13) "Southwest Florida" means the counties of  
29 Manatee, Hardee, DeSoto, Sarasota, Highlands, Charlotte,  
30 Glades, Lee, Hendry, and Collier.

31 (14) "Urban areas" means Central Florida, Northeast

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1 Florida, Northwest Florida, Southeast Florida, and Southwest  
2 Florida.

3 Section 12. Section 341.821, Florida Statutes, is  
4 amended to read:

5 341.821 Florida High-Speed Rail Authority.--

6 (1) There is created and established a body politic  
7 and corporate, an agency of the state, to be known as the  
8 "Florida High-Speed Rail Authority," hereinafter referred to  
9 as the "authority."

10 (2)(a) The governing board of the authority shall  
11 consist of nine voting members appointed as follows:

12 1. Three members shall be appointed by the Governor,  
13 one of whom must have a background in the area of  
14 environmental concerns, one of whom must have a legislative  
15 background, and one of whom must have a general business  
16 background.

17 2. Three members shall be appointed by the President  
18 of the Senate, one of whom must have a background in civil  
19 engineering, one of whom must have a background in  
20 transportation construction, and one of whom must have a  
21 general business background.

22 3. Three members shall be appointed by the Speaker of  
23 the House of Representatives, one of whom must have a legal  
24 background, one of whom must have a background in financial  
25 matters, and one of whom must have a general business  
26 background.

27 (b) The appointed members shall not be subject to  
28 confirmation by the Senate. The initial term of each member  
29 appointed by the Governor shall be for 4 years. The initial  
30 term of each member appointed by the President of the Senate  
31 shall be for 3 years. The initial term of each member



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1 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
2 be for 2 years. Succeeding terms for all members shall be for  
3 terms of 4 years. ~~Initial appointments must be made within 30~~  
4 ~~days after the effective date of this act.~~

5 (c) A vacancy occurring during a term shall be filled  
6 by the respective appointing authority in the same manner as  
7 the original appointment and only for the balance of the  
8 unexpired term. An appointment to fill a vacancy shall be made  
9 within 60 days after the occurrence of the vacancy.

10 (d) The Secretary of Transportation shall be a  
11 nonvoting ex officio member of the board.

12 (e) The board shall elect one of its members as chair  
13 of the authority. The chair shall hold office at the will of  
14 the board. Five members of the board shall constitute a  
15 quorum, and the vote of five members shall be necessary for  
16 any action taken by the authority. The authority may meet upon  
17 the constitution of a quorum. No vacancy in the authority  
18 shall impair the right of a quorum of the board to exercise  
19 all rights and perform all duties of the authority.

20 (f) The members of the board shall not be entitled to  
21 compensation but shall be entitled to receive their travel and  
22 other necessary expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

23 (3) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, it  
24 shall not be or constitute a conflict of interest for a person  
25 having a background specified in this section to serve as a  
26 member of the authority. However, in each official decision to  
27 which this act is applicable, such member's firm or related  
28 entity may not have a financial or economic interest nor shall  
29 the authority contract with or conduct any business with a  
30 member or such member's firm or directly related business  
31 entity.

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1           (4) The authority shall be assigned to the Department  
2 of Transportation for administrative purposes. The authority  
3 shall be a separate budget entity. The Department of  
4 Transportation shall provide administrative support and  
5 service to the authority to the extent requested by the chair  
6 of the authority. The authority shall not be subject to  
7 control, supervision, or direction by the Department of  
8 Transportation in any manner, including, but not limited to,  
9 personnel, purchasing, transactions involving real or personal  
10 property, and budgetary matters.

11           Section 13. Section 341.822, Florida Statutes, is  
12 amended to read:

13           341.822 Powers and duties.--

14           (1) The authority created and established by this act  
15 shall locate, plan, design, finance, construct, maintain, own,  
16 operate, administer, and manage the ~~preliminary engineering~~  
17 ~~and preliminary environmental assessment of the intrastate~~  
18 ~~high-speed rail system in the state., hereinafter referred to~~  
19 ~~as "intrastate high-speed rail."~~

20           (2) The authority may exercise all powers granted to  
21 corporations under the Florida Business Corporation Act,  
22 chapter 607, except the authority may only not incur debt in  
23 accordance with levels authorized by the Legislature.

24           (3) The authority shall have perpetual succession as a  
25 body politic and corporate.

26           (4) The authority is authorized to seek and obtain  
27 federal matching funds or any other funds to fulfill the  
28 requirements of this act either directly or through the  
29 Department of Transportation.

30           (5) The authority may employ an executive director,  
31 ~~permanent or temporary,~~ as it may require and shall determine

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1 the qualifications and fix the compensation. The authority may  
2 delegate to one or more of its agents or employees such of its  
3 power as it deems necessary to carry out the purposes of this  
4 act, subject always to the supervision and control of the  
5 authority.

6 Section 14. Section 341.823, Florida Statutes, is  
7 amended to read:

8 341.823 Criteria for assessment and recommendations.--

9 (1) The following criteria shall apply to the  
10 establishment of the high-speed rail system ~~in developing the~~  
11 ~~preliminary engineering, preliminary environmental assessment,~~  
12 ~~and recommendations~~ required by this act:

13 (a) The system shall be capable of traveling speeds in  
14 excess of 120 miles per hour consisting of dedicated rails or  
15 guideways separated from motor vehicle traffic;

16 (b) The initial segments of the system will be  
17 developed and operated between the St. Petersburg area, the  
18 Tampa area, and the Orlando area, with future service to the  
19 Miami area;

20 (c) The authority is to develop a program model that  
21 uses, to the maximum extent feasible, nongovernmental sources  
22 of funding for the design, construction, maintenance, and  
23 operation, and financing of the system;

24 (2) The authority shall establish requirements ~~make~~  
25 ~~recommendations~~ concerning:

26 (a) The format and types of information that must be  
27 included in a financial or business plan for the high-speed  
28 rail system, and the authority may develop that financial or  
29 business plan;

30 (b) The preferred routes between the cities and urban  
31 areas designated in accordance with s. 341.8203 ~~in paragraph~~

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1 ~~(1)(b);~~  
2           (c) The preferred locations for the stations in the  
3 cities and urban areas designated in accordance with s.  
4 341.8203 in paragraph (1)(b);  
5           (d) The preferred locomotion technology to be employed  
6 ~~from constitutional choices of monorail, fixed guideway, or~~  
7 ~~magnetic levitation; and~~  
8           ~~(e) Any changes that may be needed in state statutes~~  
9 ~~or federal laws which would make the proposed system eligible~~  
10 ~~for available federal funding; and~~  
11           ~~(e)(f)~~ Any other issues the authority deems relevant  
12 to the development of a high-speed rail system.  
13           (3) The authority shall develop a marketing plan, a  
14 detailed planning-level ridership study, and an estimate of  
15 the annual operating and maintenance cost for the system and  
16 all other associate expenses.  
17           ~~(3) When preparing the operating plan, the authority~~  
18 ~~shall include:~~  
19           ~~(a) The frequency of service between the cities~~  
20 ~~designated in paragraph (1)(b);~~  
21           ~~(b) The proposed fare structure for passenger and~~  
22 ~~freight service;~~  
23           ~~(c) Proposed trip times, system capacity, passenger~~  
24 ~~accommodations, and amenities;~~  
25           ~~(d) Methods to ensure compliance with applicable~~  
26 ~~environmental standards and regulations;~~  
27           ~~(e) A marketing plan, including strategies that can be~~  
28 ~~employed to enhance the utilization of the system;~~  
29           ~~(f) A detailed planning-level ridership study;~~  
30           ~~(g) Consideration of nonfare revenues that may be~~  
31 ~~derived from;~~

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- 1           ~~1. The sale of development rights at the stations;~~
- 2           ~~2. License, franchise, and lease fees;~~
- 3           ~~3. Sale of advertising space on the trains or in the~~
- 4 ~~stations; and~~
- 5           ~~4. Any other potential sources deemed appropriate.~~
- 6           ~~(h) An estimate of the total cost of the entire~~
- 7 ~~system, including, but not limited to, the costs to:~~
- 8           ~~1. Design and build the stations and monorail, fixed~~
- 9 ~~guideway, or magnetic levitation system;~~
- 10           ~~2. Acquire any necessary rights-of-way;~~
- 11           ~~3. Purchase or lease rolling stock and other equipment~~
- 12 ~~necessary to build, operate, and maintain the system.~~
- 13           ~~(i) An estimate of the annual operating and~~
- 14 ~~maintenance costs for the system and all other associated~~
- 15 ~~expenses.~~
- 16           ~~(j) An estimate of the value of assets the state or~~
- 17 ~~its political subdivisions may provide as in-kind~~
- 18 ~~contributions for the system, including rights-of-way,~~
- 19 ~~engineering studies performed for previous high-speed rail~~
- 20 ~~initiatives, land for rail stations and necessary maintenance~~
- 21 ~~facilities, and any expenses that may be incurred by the state~~
- 22 ~~or its political subdivisions to accommodate the installation~~
- 23 ~~of the system.~~
- 24           ~~(k) An estimate of the funding required per year from~~
- 25 ~~state funds for the next 30 years for operating the preferred~~
- 26 ~~routes between the cities designated in paragraph (1)(b).~~
- 27
- 28 ~~Whenever applicable and appropriate, the authority will base~~
- 29 ~~estimates of projected costs, expenses, and revenues on~~
- 30 ~~documented expenditures or experience derived from similar~~
- 31 ~~projects.~~

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1 Section 15. Section 341.824, Florida Statutes, is  
2 amended to read:

3 341.824 Technical, scientific, or other assistance.--

4 (1) The Florida Transportation Commission, the  
5 Department of Community Affairs, and the Department of  
6 Environmental Protection shall, at the authority's request,  
7 provide technical, scientific, or other assistance.

8 (2) The Department of Community Affairs shall, if  
9 requested, provide assistance to local governments in  
10 analyzing the land use and comprehensive planning aspects of  
11 the high-speed rail system. The Department of Community  
12 Affairs shall assist the authority with the resolution of any  
13 conflicts between the system and adopted local comprehensive  
14 plans.

15 (3) The Department of Environmental Protection shall,  
16 if requested, provide assistance to local governments and  
17 other permitting agencies in analyzing the environmental  
18 aspects of the high-speed rail system. The Department of  
19 Environmental Protection shall assist the authority and the  
20 contractor in expediting the approval of the necessary  
21 environmental permits for the system.

22 Section 16. Section 341.827, Florida Statutes, is  
23 created to read:

24 341.827 Service areas; segment designation.--

25 (1) The authority shall determine in which order the  
26 service areas, as designated by the Legislature, will be  
27 served by the high-speed rail system.

28 (2) The authority shall plan and develop the  
29 high-speed rail system so that construction proceeds as  
30 follows:

31 (a) The initial segments of the system shall be

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1 developed and operated between the St. Petersburg area, the  
2 Tampa area, the Lakeland/Winter Haven area, and the Orlando  
3 area, with future service to the Miami area.

4 (b) Construction of subsequent segments of the  
5 high-speed rail system shall connect the metropolitan areas of  
6 Port Canaveral/Cocoa Beach, Ft. Pierce, West Palm Beach, Ft.  
7 Lauderdale, Daytona Beach, St. Augustine, Jacksonville, Ft.  
8 Myers/Naples, Sarasota/Bradenton, Gainesville/Ocala,  
9 Tallahassee, and Pensacola.

10 (c) Selection of segments of the high-speed rail  
11 system to be constructed subsequent to the initial segments of  
12 the system shall be prioritized by the authority, giving  
13 consideration to the demand for service, financial  
14 participation by local governments, financial participation by  
15 the private sector, and the available financial resources of  
16 the authority.

17 Section 17. Section 341.828, Florida Statutes, is  
18 created to read:

19 341.828 Permitting.--

20 (1) The authority, for the purposes of permitting, may  
21 utilize one or more permitting processes provided for in  
22 statute, including, but not limited to, the metropolitan  
23 planning organization long-range transportation planning  
24 process as defined in s. 339.175 (6) and (7), in conjunction  
25 with the Department of Transportation's work program process  
26 as defined in s. 339.135, or any permitting process now in  
27 effect or that may be in effect at the time of permitting and  
28 will provide the most timely and cost-effective permitting  
29 process.

30 (2) The authority shall work in cooperation with  
31 metropolitan planning organizations in areas where the

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1 high-speed rail system will be located. The metropolitan  
2 planning organizations shall cooperate with the authority and  
3 include the high-speed rail system alignment within their  
4 adopted long-range transportation plans and transportation  
5 improvement programs for the purposes of providing public  
6 information, consistency with the plans, and receipt of  
7 federal and state funds by the authority to support the  
8 high-speed rail system.

9 (3) For purposes of selecting a route alignment, the  
10 authority may use the project development and environment  
11 study process, including the efficient transportation  
12 decisionmaking system process as adopted by the Department of  
13 Transportation.

14 Section 18. Section 341.829, Florida Statutes, is  
15 created to read:

16 341.829 Conflict prevention, mitigation, and  
17 resolution.--

18 (1) The authority, in conjunction with the Executive  
19 Office of the Governor, the Department of Community Affairs,  
20 and the Department of Environmental Protection, shall develop  
21 and implement, within 180 days after the effective date of  
22 this act, a process to prevent, mitigate, and resolve, to the  
23 maximum extent feasible, any conflicts or potential conflicts  
24 of a high-speed rail system with growth management  
25 requirements and environmental standards.

26 (2) Any person who disagrees with the alignment  
27 decision must file a complaint with the authority within 20  
28 days after the authority's final adoption of the alignment.

29 (3) The authority must respond to any timely filed  
30 complaint within 60 days after the complaint is filed with the  
31 authority.



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1           Section 19. Section 341.830, Florida Statutes, is  
2 created to read:

3           341.830 Procurement.--

4           (1) The authority may employ procurement methods under  
5 chapters 255, 287, and 337 and under any rule adopted under  
6 such chapters. To enhance the effective and efficient  
7 operation of the authority, and to enhance the ability of the  
8 authority to use best business practices, the authority may,  
9 pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, adopt rules for and  
10 employ procurement methods available to the private sector.

11           (2) The authority is authorized to procure commodities  
12 and the services of a qualified person or entity to design,  
13 build, finance, operate, maintain, and implement a high-speed  
14 rail system, including the use of a DBOM or DBOM & F method  
15 using a request for proposal, a request for qualifications, or  
16 an invitation to negotiate.

17           Section 20. Section 341.831, Florida Statutes, is  
18 created to read:

19           341.831 Prequalification.--

20           (1) The authority may prequalify interested persons or  
21 entities prior to seeking proposals for the design,  
22 construction, operation, maintenance, and financing of the  
23 high-speed rail system. The authority may establish qualifying  
24 criteria that may include, but not be limited to, experience,  
25 financial resources, organization and personnel, equipment,  
26 past record or history of the person or entity, ability to  
27 finance or issue bonds, and ability to post a construction or  
28 performance bond.

29           (2) The authority may establish the qualifying  
30 criteria in a request for qualification without adopting the  
31 qualifying criteria as rules.

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1           Section 21. Section 341.832, Florida Statutes, is  
2 created to read:

3           341.832 Request for qualifications.--

4           (1) The authority is authorized to develop and execute  
5 a request for qualifications process to seek a person or  
6 entity to design, build, operate, maintain, and finance a  
7 high-speed rail system. The authority may issue multiple  
8 requests for qualifications. The authority shall develop  
9 criteria for selection of a person or entity that shall be  
10 included in any request for qualifications.

11           (2) The authority may issue a request for  
12 qualifications without adopting a rule.

13           Section 22. Section 341.833, Florida Statutes, is  
14 created to read:

15           341.833 Request for proposals.--

16           (1) The authority is authorized to develop and execute  
17 a request for proposals process to seek a person or entity to  
18 design, build, operate, maintain, and finance a high-speed  
19 rail system. The authority may issue multiple requests for  
20 proposals. The authority shall develop criteria for selection  
21 of a person or entity that shall be included in any request  
22 for proposals.

23           (2) In the request for proposals, the authority shall  
24 specify the minimum period of time for the contract duration.  
25 A person or entity may propose a longer period of time for the  
26 contract and provide justification of the need for an extended  
27 contract period. If the authority extends the time period for  
28 the contract, such time period shall be extended for all  
29 persons or entities if so requested.

30           Section 23. Section 341.834, Florida Statutes, is  
31 created to read:

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1           341.834 Award of contract.--

2           (1) The authority may award a contract subject to such  
3 terms and conditions, including, but not limited to,  
4 compliance with any applicable permitting requirements, and  
5 any other terms and conditions the authority considers  
6 appropriate.

7           (2) The contract shall authorize the contractor to  
8 provide service between stations as established by the  
9 contract. The contractor shall coordinate its facilities and  
10 services with passenger rail providers, commuter rail  
11 authorities, and public transit providers to provide access to  
12 and from the high-speed rail system.

13           (3) The contractor shall not convey, lease, or  
14 otherwise transfer any high-speed rail system property, any  
15 interest in such property, or any improvement constructed upon  
16 such property without written approval of the authority.

17           Section 24. Section 341.835, Florida Statutes, is  
18 created to read:

19           341.835 Acquisition of property; rights-of-way;  
20 disposal of land.--

21           (1) The authority may purchase, lease, exchange, or  
22 otherwise acquire any land, property interests, or buildings  
23 or other improvements, including personal property within such  
24 buildings or on such lands, necessary to secure or utilize  
25 rights-of-way for existing, proposed, or anticipated  
26 high-speed rail system facilities.

27           (2) Title to any property acquired in the name of the  
28 authority shall be administered by the authority under such  
29 terms and conditions as the authority may require.

30           (3) When the authority acquires property for a  
31 high-speed rail system, or any related or ancillary

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1 facilities, by purchase or donation, it is not subject to any  
2 liability imposed by chapter 376 or chapter 403 for  
3 preexisting soil or groundwater contamination due solely to  
4 its ownership. This section does not affect the rights or  
5 liabilities of any past or future owners of the acquired  
6 property, nor does it affect the liability of any governmental  
7 entity for the results of its actions which create or  
8 exacerbate a pollution source. The authority and the  
9 Department of Environmental Protection may enter into  
10 interagency agreements for the performance, funding, and  
11 reimbursement of the investigative and remedial acts necessary  
12 for property acquired by the authority.

13 (4) In acquiring property or property rights for any  
14 high-speed rail system or related or ancillary facilities, the  
15 authority may acquire an entire lot, block, or tract of land  
16 if the interests of the public will be best served by such  
17 acquisition, even though the entire lot, block, or tract is  
18 not immediately needed for the right-of-way proper or for the  
19 specific related or ancillary facilities.

20 (5) The authority, by resolution, may dispose of any  
21 interest in property acquired pursuant to this section on  
22 terms and conditions the authority deems appropriate.

23 (6) The authority and its employees and agents shall  
24 have the right to enter upon properties which may be  
25 determined to be necessary for the construction,  
26 reconstruction, relocation, maintenance, and operation of a  
27 proposed high-speed rail system and associated development and  
28 related or ancillary facilities as described in subsection (1)  
29 for the purposes of surveying and soil and environmental  
30 testing.

31 (7) The authority is authorized to accept donations of

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1 real property from public or private entities for the purposes  
2 of implementing a high-speed rail system.

3 Section 25. Section 341.836, Florida Statutes, is  
4 created to read:

5 341.836 Associated development.--

6 (1) The authority, alone or as part of a joint  
7 development, may undertake development of associated  
8 developments to be a source of revenue for the establishment,  
9 construction, operation, or maintenance of the high-speed rail  
10 system. Such associated developments must be associated with  
11 a rail station and have pedestrian ingress to and egress from  
12 the rail station; be consistent, to the extent feasible, with  
13 applicable local government comprehensive plans and local land  
14 development regulations; and otherwise be in compliance with  
15 the provisions of this act.

16 (2) This act does not prohibit the authority, the  
17 selected person or entity, or a party to a joint venture with  
18 the authority or its selected person or entity from obtaining  
19 approval, pursuant to any other law, for any associated  
20 development that is reasonably related to the high-speed rail  
21 system.

22 Section 26. Section 341.837, Florida Statutes, is  
23 created to read:

24 341.837 Payment of expenses.--All expenses incurred in  
25 carrying out the provisions of this act shall be payable  
26 solely from funds provided under the authority of this act, or  
27 from other legally available sources.

28 Section 27. Section 341.838, Florida Statutes, is  
29 created to read:

30 341.838 Rates, rents, fees, and charges.--

31 (1) The authority is authorized to fix, revise,

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1 charge, and collect rates, rents, fees, charges, and revenues  
2 for the use of and for the services furnished, or to be  
3 furnished, by the system and to contract with any person,  
4 partnership, association, corporation, or other body, public  
5 or private, in respect thereof. Such rates, rents, fees, and  
6 charges shall be reviewed annually by the authority and may be  
7 adjusted as set forth in the contract setting such rates,  
8 rents, fees, or charges. The funds collected hereunder shall,  
9 with any other funds available, be used to pay the cost of all  
10 administrative expenses of the authority, and the cost of  
11 designing, building, operating, and maintaining the system and  
12 each and every portion thereof, to the extent that the payment  
13 of such cost has not otherwise been adequately provided for.

14 (2) Rates, rents, fees, and charges fixed, revised,  
15 charged, and collected pursuant to this section shall not be  
16 subject to supervision or regulation by any department,  
17 commission, board, body, bureau, or agency of this state other  
18 than the authority.

19 Section 28. Section 341.839, Florida Statutes, is  
20 created to read:

21 341.839 Alternate means.--The foregoing sections of  
22 this act shall be deemed to provide an additional and  
23 alternative method for accomplishing the purposes authorized  
24 therein, and shall be regarded as supplemental and additional  
25 to powers conferred by other laws. Except as otherwise  
26 expressly provided in this act, none of the powers granted to  
27 the authority under the provisions of this act shall be  
28 subject to the supervision or require the approval or consent  
29 of any municipality or political subdivision or any  
30 commission, board, body, bureau, or official.

31 Section 29. Section 341.840, Florida Statutes, is

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1 created to read:

2 341.840 Tax exemption.--The exercise of the powers  
3 granted by this act will be in all respects for the benefit of  
4 the people of this state, for the increase of their commerce,  
5 welfare, and prosperity, and for the improvement of their  
6 health and living conditions, and as the design, building,  
7 operation, maintenance, and financing of a system by the  
8 authority or its agent or the owner or lessee thereof, as  
9 herein authorized, constitutes the performance of an essential  
10 public function, neither the authority, its agent, nor the  
11 owner of such system shall be required to pay any taxes or  
12 assessments upon or in respect to the system or any property  
13 acquired or used by the authority, its agent, or such owner  
14 under the provisions of this act or upon the income therefrom,  
15 any security therefor, their transfer, and the income  
16 therefrom, including any profit made on the sale thereof,  
17 shall at all times be free from taxation of every kind by the  
18 state, the counties, and the municipalities and other  
19 political subdivisions in the state.

20 Section 30. Section 341.841, Florida Statutes, is  
21 created to read:

22 341.841 Report; audit.--The authority shall prepare an  
23 annual report of its actions, findings, and recommendations  
24 and submit the report to the Governor, the President of the  
25 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on or  
26 before January 1. The authority shall provide for an annual  
27 financial audit, as defined in s. 11.45, of its accounts and  
28 records conducted by an independent certified public  
29 accountant. The audit report shall include a management letter  
30 as defined in s. 11.45. The cost of the audit shall be paid  
31 from funds available to the authority pursuant to this act.

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1           Section 31. Section 341.842, Florida Statutes, is  
2 created to read:

3           341.842 Liberal construction.--This act, being  
4 necessary for the welfare of the state and its inhabitants,  
5 shall be liberally construed to effect the purposes hereof.

6           Section 32. Subsection (10) of section 288.109,  
7 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

8           288.109 One-Stop Permitting System.--

9           (10) Notwithstanding any other provision of law or  
10 administrative rule to the contrary, the fee imposed by a  
11 state agency or water management district for issuing a  
12 development permit shall be waived for a 6-month period  
13 beginning on the date the state agency or water management  
14 district begins accepting development permit applications over  
15 the Internet and the applicant submits the development permit  
16 to the agency or district using the One-Stop Permitting  
17 System. The 6-month fee waiver shall not apply to development  
18 permit fees assessed by the Electrical Power Plant Siting Act,  
19 ss. 403.501-403.519; the Transmission Line Siting Act, ss.  
20 403.52-403.5365; the statewide Multi-purpose Hazardous Waste  
21 Facility Siting Act, ss. 403.78-403.7893; and the Natural Gas  
22 Pipeline Siting Act, ss. 403.9401-403.9425; ~~and the High Speed~~  
23 ~~Rail Transportation Siting Act, ss. 341.3201-341.386.~~

24           Section 33. Subsection (6) of section 334.30, Florida  
25 Statutes, is amended to read:

26           334.30 Private transportation facilities.--The  
27 Legislature hereby finds and declares that there is a public  
28 need for rapid construction of safe and efficient  
29 transportation facilities for the purpose of travel within the  
30 state, and that it is in the public's interest to provide for  
31 the construction of additional safe, convenient, and



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1 economical transportation facilities.

2 (6) ~~Notwithstanding s. 341.327,~~A fixed-guideway  
3 transportation system authorized by the department to be  
4 wholly or partially within the department's right-of-way  
5 pursuant to a lease granted under s. 337.251 may operate at  
6 any safe speed.

7 Section 34. Subsection (9) of section 337.251, Florida  
8 Statutes, is amended to read:

9 337.251 Lease of property for joint public-private  
10 development and areas above or below department property.--

11 (9) ~~Notwithstanding s. 341.327,~~A fixed-guideway  
12 transportation system authorized by the department to be  
13 wholly or partially within the department's right-of-way  
14 pursuant to a lease granted under this section may operate at  
15 any safe speed.

16 Section 35. Section 341.501, Florida Statutes, is  
17 amended to read:

18 341.501 High-technology transportation systems; joint  
19 project agreement or assistance.--Notwithstanding any other  
20 provision of law, the Department of Transportation may enter  
21 into a joint project agreement with, or otherwise assist,  
22 private or public entities, or consortia thereof, to  
23 facilitate the research, development, and demonstration of  
24 high-technology transportation systems, including, but not  
25 limited to, systems using magnetic levitation technology. ~~The~~  
26 ~~provisions of the Florida High-Speed Rail Transportation Act,~~  
27 ~~ss. 341.3201-341.386, do not apply to actions taken under this~~  
28 ~~section, and~~ The department may, subject to s. 339.135,  
29 provide funds to match any available federal aid for  
30 effectuating the research, development, and demonstration of  
31 high-technology transportation systems.

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1           Section 36. Sections 341.3201, 341.321, 341.322,  
2 341.325, 341.327, 341.329, 341.331, 341.332, 341.3331,  
3 341.3332, 341.3333, 341.3334, 341.3335, 341.3336, 341.3337,  
4 341.3338, 341.3339, 341.334, 341.335, 341.336, 341.3365,  
5 341.342, 341.343, 341.344, 341.345, 341.346, 341.3465,  
6 341.347, 341.348, 341.351, 341.352, 341.353, 341.363, 341.364,  
7 341.365, 341.366, 341.368, 341.369, 341.371, 341.372, 341.375,  
8 341.381, 341.382, 341.383, and 341.386, Florida Statutes, are  
9 repealed.

10

11 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

12

13

14 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

15 And the title is amended as follows:

16           On page 2, line 17, after the semicolon

17

18 insert:

19           creating the "Florida High-Speed Rail Authority  
20           Act"; creating s. 341.8201, F.S.; providing a  
21           short title; creating s. 341.8202, F.S.;  
22           providing legislative findings, policy,  
23           purpose, and intent with respect to the  
24           development, design, financing, construction,  
25           and operation of a high-speed rail system in  
26           the state; creating s. 341.8203, F.S.;  
27           providing definitions; amending s. 341.821,  
28           F.S., relating to the creation of the Florida  
29           High-Speed Rail Authority; removing obsolete  
30           provisions; amending s. 341.822, F.S.; revising  
31           and providing additional powers and duties of

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1 the authority; amending s. 341.823, F.S.;

2 revising the criteria for assessment and

3 recommendations with respect to the

4 establishment of the high-speed rail system;

5 requiring the authority to establish specified

6 requirements; requiring the authority to

7 develop a specified plan, study, and estimates;

8 amending s. 341.824, F.S.; specifying types of

9 technical, scientific, or other assistance to

10 be provided by the Department of Community

11 Affairs and the Department of Environmental

12 Protection; creating s. 341.827, F.S.;

13 providing for determination of service areas

14 and the order of system segment construction;

15 creating s. 341.828, F.S.; authorizing the

16 authority to utilize existing permitting

17 processes; requiring cooperation between the

18 authority and metropolitan planning

19 organizations; creating s. 341.829, F.S.;

20 requiring the authority, in conjunction with

21 the Executive Office of the Governor, the

22 Department of Community Affairs, and the

23 Department of Environmental Protection, to

24 develop and implement a process to mitigate and

25 resolve conflicts between the system and growth

26 management requirements and environmental

27 standards; providing time limits for the filing

28 of and response to specified complaints;

29 creating s. 341.830, F.S.; authorizing the

30 authority to employ specified procurement

31 methods; providing for the adoption of rules;

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1           authorizing the authority to procure  
2           commodities and services for the designing,  
3           building, financing, maintenance, operation,  
4           and implementation of a high-speed rail system;  
5           creating s. 341.831, F.S.; authorizing the  
6           authority to prequalify interested persons or  
7           entities prior to seeking proposals for the  
8           design, construction, operation, maintenance,  
9           and financing of the high-speed rail system;  
10          providing for the establishment of qualifying  
11          criteria; creating s. 341.832, F.S.;

12          authorizing the authority to develop and  
13          execute a request for qualifications process;  
14          creating s. 341.833, F.S.; authorizing the  
15          authority to develop and execute a request for  
16          proposals process to seek a person or entity to  
17          design, build, operate, maintain, and finance a  
18          high-speed rail system; creating s. 341.834,  
19          F.S.; providing for award of a conditional  
20          contract; providing contract requirements;  
21          prohibiting transfer of system property without  
22          written approval; creating s. 341.835, F.S.;

23          authorizing the authority to purchase, lease,  
24          exchange, or acquire land, property, or  
25          buildings necessary to secure or utilize  
26          rights-of-way for high-speed rail system  
27          facilities; providing that the authority is not  
28          subject to specified liability; authorizing the  
29          authority and the Department of Environmental  
30          Protection to enter into certain interagency  
31          agreements; providing for the disposal of

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1 interest in property; authorizing agents and  
2 employees of the authority to enter upon  
3 certain property; authorizing the authority to  
4 accept donations of real property; creating s.  
5 341.836, F.S.; authorizing the authority to  
6 undertake the development of associated  
7 developments; providing requirements of  
8 associated developments; creating s. 341.837,  
9 F.S.; providing for payment of expenses  
10 incurred in carrying out the act; creating s.  
11 341.838, F.S.; authorizing the authority to  
12 fix, revise, charge, collect, and adjust rates,  
13 rents, fees, charges, and revenues, and to  
14 enter into contracts; providing for annual  
15 review by the authority of rates, rents, fees,  
16 and charges; providing for uses of revenues;  
17 creating s. 341.839, F.S.; providing that the  
18 act is supplemental and additional to powers  
19 conferred by other laws; exempting powers of  
20 the authority from specified supervision,  
21 approval, or consent; creating s. 341.840,  
22 F.S.; providing tax exemptions for property  
23 acquired or used by the authority or specified  
24 income; creating s. 341.841, F.S.; requiring  
25 the authority to prepare and submit a report;  
26 providing for an annual audit; creating s.  
27 341.842, F.S.; providing construction of the  
28 act; amending s. 288.109, F.S.; removing a  
29 cross reference; amending s. 334.30, F.S.;  
30 removing a cross reference; amending s.  
31 337.251, F.S.; removing a cross reference;

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1           amending s. 341.501, F.S.; providing that  
2           specified actions do not apply to the Florida  
3           High-Speed Rail Authority Act; repealing s.  
4           341.3201, F.S., relating to the short title for  
5           ss. 341.3201-341.386, F.S., the "Florida  
6           High-Speed Rail Transportation Act"; repealing  
7           s. 341.321, F.S., relating to legislative  
8           findings, policy, purpose, and intent with  
9           respect to the development of a high-speed rail  
10          transportation system connecting the major  
11          urban areas of the state; repealing s. 341.322,  
12          F.S., relating to definitions of terms;  
13          repealing s. 341.325, F.S., relating to special  
14          powers and duties of the Department of  
15          Transportation; repealing s. 341.327, F.S.,  
16          which provides that the Florida High-Speed Rail  
17          Transportation Act is the sole and exclusive  
18          determination of need for any high-speed rail  
19          transportation system established under the  
20          act, thereby preempting specified  
21          determinations of need; repealing s. 341.329,  
22          F.S., relating to the issuance of bonds to  
23          finance a high-speed rail transportation  
24          system; repealing s. 341.331, F.S., relating to  
25          designation of the areas of the state to be  
26          served by the high-speed rail transportation  
27          system and designation of termini; repealing s.  
28          341.332, F.S., relating to the award of  
29          franchises by the Department of Transportation  
30          to establish a high-speed rail transportation  
31          system; repealing s. 341.3331, F.S., relating

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1 to request for proposals; repealing s.  
2 341.3332, F.S., relating to notice of issuance  
3 of request for proposals; repealing s.  
4 341.3333, F.S., relating to requirements with  
5 respect to an application for franchise, and  
6 confidentiality of the application and portions  
7 of the application relating to trade secrets;  
8 repealing s. 341.3334, F.S., relating to the  
9 departmental review process of application for  
10 franchise; repealing s. 341.3335, F.S.,  
11 relating to interagency coordination of  
12 franchise application review; repealing s.  
13 341.3336, F.S., relating to public meetings on  
14 franchise applications; repealing s. 341.3337,  
15 F.S., relating to determination and award of  
16 franchise; repealing s. 341.3338, F.S.,  
17 relating to effect of franchise; repealing s.  
18 341.3339, F.S., relating to postfranchise  
19 agreements; repealing s. 341.334, F.S.,  
20 relating to the powers and duties of the  
21 Department of Transportation with respect to  
22 the act; repealing s. 341.335, F.S., relating  
23 to the powers and duties of the Florida Land  
24 and Water Adjudicatory Commission sitting as  
25 the board; repealing s. 341.336, F.S., relating  
26 to the powers and duties of the Department of  
27 Environmental Protection, the Department of  
28 Community Affairs, and other affected agencies;  
29 repealing s. 341.3365, F.S., relating to  
30 certification procedures; repealing s. 341.342,  
31 F.S., relating to agreements concerning

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1 contents of certification application and  
2 supporting documentation; repealing s. 341.343,  
3 F.S., relating to review of certification  
4 applications; repealing s. 341.344, F.S.,  
5 relating to the establishment, composition,  
6 organization, and duties of the Citizens'  
7 Planning and Environmental Advisory Committee;  
8 repealing s. 341.345, F.S., relating to  
9 alternate corridors or transit station  
10 locations; repealing s. 341.346, F.S., relating  
11 to the powers and duties of an administrative  
12 law judge appointed to conduct hearings under  
13 the act; repealing s. 341.3465, F.S., relating  
14 to alteration of time limitations specified by  
15 the act; repealing s. 341.347, F.S., relating  
16 to required combined public meetings and land  
17 use and zoning hearings to be conducted by  
18 local governments; repealing s. 341.348, F.S.,  
19 relating to reports and studies required of  
20 various agencies by the act; repealing s.  
21 341.351, F.S., relating to publication and  
22 contents of notice of certification application  
23 and proceedings; repealing s. 341.352, F.S.,  
24 relating to certification hearings; repealing  
25 s. 341.353, F.S., relating to final disposition  
26 of certification applications; repealing s.  
27 341.363, F.S., relating to the effect of  
28 certification; repealing s. 341.364, F.S.,  
29 relating to a franchisee's right to appeal to  
30 the Florida Land and Water Adjudicatory  
31 Commission under specified circumstances;



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1           repealing s. 341.365, F.S., relating to  
2           associated development; repealing s. 341.366,  
3           F.S., relating to recording of notice of  
4           certified corridor route; repealing s. 341.368,  
5           F.S., relating to modification of certification  
6           or franchise; repealing s. 341.369, F.S.,  
7           relating to fees imposed by the department and  
8           the disposition of such fees; repealing s.  
9           341.371, F.S., relating to revocation or  
10          suspension of franchise or certification;  
11          repealing s. 341.372, F.S., relating to  
12          imposition by the department of specified  
13          administrative fines in lieu of revocation or  
14          suspension of franchise; repealing s. 341.375,  
15          F.S., relating to the required participation by  
16          women, minorities, and economically  
17          disadvantaged individuals in all phases of the  
18          design, construction, maintenance, and  
19          operation of a high-speed rail transportation  
20          system developed under the act, and required  
21          plans for compliance by franchisees; repealing  
22          s. 341.381, F.S., relating to applicability of  
23          the act; repealing s. 341.382, F.S., relating  
24          to laws and regulations superseded by the act;  
25          repealing s. 341.383, F.S., relating to the  
26          authority of local governments to assess  
27          specified fees; repealing s. 341.386, F.S.,  
28          relating to the admissibility of the award of a  
29          franchise and of a certification under the act  
30          in eminent domain proceedings;  
31