

HB 1767 2003

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to ground rents for leased governmental property; amending ss. 190.011 and 190.021, F.S.; authorizing community development districts to use maintenance special assessments to collect ground rents from lessees of governmentally owned real property; providing an effective date.

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

 Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 190.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

190.011 General powers.--The district shall have, and the board may exercise, the following powers:

(7) To hold, control, and acquire by donation, purchase, or condemnation, or dispose of, any public easements, dedications to public use, platted reservations for public purposes, or any reservations for those purposes authorized by this act; and to make use of such easements, dedications, or reservations for any of the purposes authorized by this act; and, when real property in the district is owned by a governmental entity and subject to a ground lease as described in s. 190.003 (13), to undertake the collection of ground rent from landowners pursuant to contract with such governmental entity, including through the levy of maintenance special assessments pursuant to s.190.021 (3).

Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 190.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

190.021 Taxes; non-ad valorem assessments.--



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MAINTENANCE SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS. -- To maintain and preserve the facilities and projects of the district, the board may levy a maintenance special assessment. This assessment may be evidenced to and certified to the property appraiser by the board of supervisors not later than August 31 of each year and shall be entered by the property appraiser on the county tax rolls and shall be collected and enforced by the tax collector in the same manner and at the same time as county taxes, and the proceeds therefrom shall be paid to the district. However, this subsection shall not prohibit the district in its discretion from using the method prescribed in either s. 197.363 or s. 197.3632 for collecting and enforcing these assessments. These maintenance special assessments shall be a lien on the property against which assessed until paid and shall be enforceable in like manner as county taxes. The amount of the maintenance special assessment for the exercise of the district's powers under ss. 190.011 and 190.012 shall be determined by the board based upon a report of the district's engineer and assessed by the board upon such lands, which may be all of the lands within the district benefited by the maintenance thereof, apportioned between the benefited lands in proportion to the benefits received by each tract of land. When real property in the district is owned by a governmental entity and subject to a ground lease as described in s. 190.003 (13), the district may include in the maintenance special assessment to be levied on such lands, pursuant to a contract with a governmental entity, the amount of any ground rent due to be collected each year by the district on behalf of such governmental entity.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.