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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to the Panama City Port Authority, Bay
 County; providing for codification of the district's
 charter; codifying, amending, and reenacting the
 district's special acts; providing for severability;
 repealing chapters 17643 (1935), 23466 (1945), 57-1704,
 69-1442, 79-545, 84-389, and 85-380, Laws of Florida;
 providing for liberal construction; providing an effective
 date.

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

Section 1. Pursuant to section 189.429, Florida Statutes,
this act constitutes the codification of all special acts
relating to the Panama City Port Authority. It is the intent of
the Legislature in enacting this law to provide a single,
comprehensive special act charter for the Authority, including
all current legislative authority granted to the Authority by
its several legislative enactments and any additional authority
granted by this act.

Section 2. Chapters 17643 (1935), 23466 (1945), 57-1704,
69-1442, 79-545, 84-389, and 85-380, Laws of Florida, are
codified, amended, reenacted, and repealed as herein provided.

Section 3. The charter for the Panama City Port Authority
 is re-created and reenacted to read:

Section 1. There is hereby created a body corporate to be
known as the Panama City Port Authority ("Authority"), a
dependent special district, with the usual corporate powers to
sue and be sued and the additional powers specified herein. Said
Authority shall be an agency of Panama City ("City"). All



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31 property now owned or hereafter acquired by the Authority shall
32 be held by it for the benefit of the City. The Authority shall
33 not lease, own, or acquire any real estate except in Bay County,
34 or within 10 miles of the City, whichever is greater.

35 Section 2. The Authority shall consist of five members.
36 The five members shall be appointed by the Panama City
37 Commissioners. The City Commission shall appoint or reappoint
38 the five members of the Authority and shall designate the term
39 of each member from 1 to 5 years. Thereafter, all appointments
40 shall be for a term of 4 years from the expiration of the
41 previous term. All vacancies for any unexpired terms shall be
42 filled by the City Commission. All members shall serve at the
43 pleasure of the City Commission. No member shall be an officer
44 or employee of the City, Bay County, or the state. Only
45 individuals residing in Bay County shall be eligible for
46 appointment to the Authority and no more than two members shall
47 be primarily engaged in the maritime industry. "Maritime
48 industry" means an activity relating to waterborne commerce and
49 navigation. The members constituting the Authority shall select
50 one of their number as chairperson. The term of office of the
51 chairperson shall be 2 years from the date of his or her
52 selection. The members shall receive no compensation for their
53 services. Three members shall constitute a quorum of the
54 Authority for all purposes.

55 Section 3. The Authority is authorized to hire an
56 executive director, attorney, secretary, and such other
57 employees or personnel, whether permanent or temporary, as it
58 may in its judgment so require. None of the employees of the
59 Authority shall be covered by the Employee Civil Service Laws of
60 the City.



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61 Section 4. The Authority is hereby authorized to own and
62 acquire property by purchase, lease, eminent domain, gift, or
63 transfer from others, including governmental agencies, and to
64 acquire, construct, maintain, equip, operate, and manage port
65 terminal facilities, including associated marine structures and
66 facilities, industrial parks, manufacturing plants, and any
67 other structures or improvements deemed convenient or
68 appropriate for its purposes. The Authority shall not have the
69 right to exercise the power of eminent domain without first
70 obtaining the approval of the City Commission.

71 Section 5. The Authority is hereby authorized to enter
72 into contracts with individuals, corporations, and governmental
73 agencies regarding all properties and structures owned,
74 operated, or leased by the Authority as deemed convenient or
75 appropriate in the management of its affairs or in the
76 furtherance thereof.

77 Section 6. Within the limits of its budget, the Authority
78 is authorized to borrow money and give its notes and evidences
79 of indebtedness therefor. Notwithstanding the limitation of any
80 budget, when authorized by the City, the Authority is hereby
81 authorized to raise moneys by the issuance and sale of revenue
82 bonds or certificates of indebtedness in such form, amounts,
83 conditions, denominations, maturities, and rates of interest as
84 the Authority deems advisable, which shall be payable solely
85 from all or any part of the income, rents, and revenues of any
86 property or facilities now or hereafter owned, leased, or
87 operated by the Authority.

88 Section 7. The Authority shall have no power or authority
89 to bind or obligate the City in any manner whatsoever, directly
90 or indirectly. The City shall not be liable or responsible for



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91 any debts, obligations, or liabilities of the Authority or its
 92 officers or employees. All persons dealing with the Authority
 93 are hereby charged with notice of this limitation on the powers
 94 of the Authority.

95 Section 8. The Authority shall submit on or before August
 96 1 of each year to the City Commission its proposed annual budget
 97 for approval by the City Commission, together with a copy of an
 98 audit of its affairs for the preceding year prepared by a
 99 certified public accountant. The audit shall be in such form as
 100 dictated by the laws of the state. No moneys shall be spent or
 101 obligations incurred by the Authority except in accordance with
 102 its budget.

103 Section 9. If any provision of this Act or the application
 104 thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such
 105 invalidity shall not affect provisions or applications of the
 106 Act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
 107 application and, to this end, the provisions of this Act are
 108 declared to be severable.

109 Section 10. This Act shall be construed as a remedial act
 110 and shall be liberally construed to promote the purposes for
 111 which it is intended.

112 Section 4. Chapters 17643 (1935), 23466 (1945), 57-1704,
 113 69-1442, 79-545, 84-389, and 85-380, Laws of Florida, are
 114 repealed.

115 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.