HB 1891 2004 A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to procurement of real property leases by state agencies; amending s. 255.248, F.S.; revising and providing definitions; limiting scope of certain provisions; amending s. 255.249, F.S.; removing a requirement regarding certain agencies planning to terminate a lease; providing that the Department of Management Services, rather than agencies acting on their own behalf, shall lease space for agencies; providing for the use of a real estate broker by the department; limiting scope of provisions to certain departments; providing for moving of agencies into vacated spaces; providing conditions under which an agency may reject a proposed move; providing for competitive solicitation of leases; providing bid procedures; providing conditions for space allocation; requiring adoption of a quality standard; amending s. 255.25, F.S.; providing criteria for agencies to monitor market conditions and initiate negotiations; removing a requirement that the Department of Management Services act as a mediator; authorizing the department to negotiate to procure new leases for the colocation of agencies; providing conditions for lease procurement; changing the requirement for competitive bidding for leases of real property for agencies to a requirement for competitive solicitation; requiring a business case analysis for extension of a lease; increasing the bond requirement for protests of a lease solicitation; moving requirements for review by the State Fire Marshal; moving requirements for a floodplain

Page 1 of 25

HB 1891 2004

analysis; removing an exception regarding specialized educational facilities; amending s. 255.25001, F.S.; providing competitive bidding as competitive procurement; amending s. 255.2501, F.S.; conforming language; amending s. 255.45, F.S.; requiring the Department of Management Services to review certain construction plans for firesafety and flood plain management compliance; amending s. 255.503, F.S.; providing that the department may engage consultants to advise the department regarding management or disposition of properties in the Florida Facilities Pool; reenacting s. 633.085, F.S., relating to the firesafety in state office buildings, to incorporate the amendment to s. 255.45, F.S., in a reference thereto; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 255.248, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 255.248 Definitions; exceptions; application of ss. 255.249 and 255.25.--
- The following definitions shall apply when used in ss. 255.249 and 255.25:
- (a) (1) The term "state-owned office building" means any real property building title to which is vested in the state and which is used by one or more executive agencies predominantly for administrative direction and support functions. This term excludes:

(b) The term "privately owned," when used to describe a building or a space within a building, shall mean any real property, title to which is not vested in the state, leased for use by one or more executive agencies predominantly for administrative direction and support functions.

(c) The term "department" means the Department of Management Services.

- (2) Sections 255.249 and 255.25 shall not apply to:
- (a) District or area offices established for field operations where law enforcement, military, inspections, road operations, or tourist welcoming functions are performed.
- (b) All educational facilities and institutions under the supervision of the Department of Education or the Board of Governors.
- (c) All custodial facilities and institutions used primarily for the care, custody, or treatment of  $\underline{inmates\ or}$  wards of the state.
- (d) Buildings or spaces used <u>by the legislature or the</u> state courts system <del>for legislative activities</del>.
- (e) Buildings purchased or constructed from agricultural or citrus trust funds.
- (2) The term "privately owned building" shall mean any building not owned by a governmental agency.
- Section 2. Section 255.249, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 255.249 Department of Management Services; responsibility; department rules.--
  - (1) The department of Management Services shall have responsibility and authority for the custodial and preventive

Page 3 of 25

HB 1891 2004 maintenance, repair, and allocation of space of all buildings in

the Florida Facilities Pool and the grounds located adjacent thereto.

- authority to procure and manage all leases of privately owned buildings on behalf of any executive agency, except as set forth in s. 255.248(2) require any state agency planning to terminate a lease for the purpose of occupying space in a new state-owned office building, the funds for which are appropriated after June 30, 2000, to state why the proposed relocation is in the best interest of the state.
- (b) The department may retain and designate a real estate broker or brokers licensed under ch. 475 to assist the department in negotiating leases, in evaluating present and future space needs of executive agencies, and to otherwise assist the department in its duties under this section and s. 255.25. Compensation of a broker may include compensation in the form of commissions paid by the owners of privately owned buildings. The department must comply with all relevant provisions in ch. 287 when procuring the services of a real estate broker.
- (c) This subsection shall not apply to the Department of
  Legal Affairs, the Department of Financial Services, or the

  Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services unless the
  cabinet officer requests that the department perform the
  service, or part thereof, for the cabinet officer's agency.
- (3) The department <u>may assign one or more agencies to move</u> into space that has been vacated by another state agency. The agency that requested space may reject the department's transfer

HB 1891 2004 of the agency into the vacated space based on excessive cost,

- of the agency into the vacated space based on excessive cost
- 117 <u>unfavorable lease terms or conditions, negative impact on</u>
- employee productivity, security concerns, poor location, poor
- building quality, insufficient parking, excessive moving costs,
- or difficult access for persons served by the agency, provided
- 121 that the agency head states in writing the specific reason or
- 122 reasons for the rejection shall, to the extent feasible,
- 123 coordinate the vacation of privately owned leased space with the
- 124 expiration of the lease on that space and, when a lease is
- 125 terminated before expiration of its base term, will make a
- 126 reasonable effort to place another state agency in the space
- 127 vacated. Any state agency may lease the space in any building
- 128 that was subject to a lease terminated by a state agency for a
- 129 period of time equal to the remainder of the base term without
- 130 the requirement of competitive bidding.
- (4) The department shall promulgate rules pursuant to
- 132 chapter 120 providing:

- (a) Methods for accomplishing the duties outlined in
- subsections subsection (1), (2), and (3).
- (b) Procedures for soliciting, evaluating, and accepting
- 136 competitive bids, proposals, or replies for leased space of
- 137 5,000 square feet or more in privately owned buildings., for
- 138 evaluating the proposals received, for exemption from
- 139 competitive bidding requirements of any However, a lease the
- 140 purpose of which is the provision of care and living space for
- 141 persons, or a lease for emergency space needs as provided in s.
- 142 255.25(6), shall be exempt from the requirement to secure
- competitive bids, proposals, or replies <del>255.25(10), and for the</del>

securing of at least three documented quotes for a lease that is

not required to be competitively bid. The procedures:

- 1. May be simplified for a solicitation of less than 5,000 square feet.
- 2. Shall provide evaluation criteria applicable to the evaluation of a bid, proposal, or reply.
- 3. Shall require that a real estate broker representing the state disclose to the department, in writing, the amount and basis of any compensation paid to the broker.
- 4. Shall provide that an agency that requested space may reject the department's selection of space for such agency based on excessive cost, unfavorable lease terms or conditions, negative impact on employee productivity, security concerns, poor location, poor building quality, insufficient parking, excessive moving costs, or difficult access for persons served by the agency, provided that the agency head states in writing the specific reason or reasons for the rejection. Upon rejection, the department shall not be required to solicit new bids, proposals, or replies and may renegotiate with prospective landlords that have previously replied to the solicitation.
- (c) Adoption of a standard method for determining square footage or any other measurement used as the basis for lease payments, or other charges, or determining space allocation.
- (d) Methods of allocating space in both state-owned office buildings and privately owned buildings leased by the state based on use, personnel, and office equipment. The space allocation method shall define specific uses and the appropriate space to be allocated to such uses. The space allocation method shall consider:

1. Accommodation of disabled persons.

- 2. Security of employees and the public.
- 3. Accommodation of public visitors of the agency.
- 4. Special needs of agencies regarding laboratory, storage, computer, telecommunications, training, and other special needs spaces.
- 5. Investment in additional space where it can be shown that gains in employee productivity will exceed the cost of the additional space.
- 6. Allocation of space for employee wellness programs, childcare, cafeterias, and break areas.
- 7. As applied to state-owned buildings, exceptions to reasonably accommodate an inability to efficiently reconfigure the space because of the design and age of the building.
- (e) Acceptable terms and conditions for inclusion in lease agreements.
- (f) Maximum rental rates, by geographic areas or by county, for leasing privately owned space.
- (g) A standard method for the assessment of rent to state agencies and other authorized occupants of state-owned office space, notwithstanding the source of funds.
- (h) For full disclosure of the names and the extent of interest of the owners holding a 4-percent or more interest in any privately owned property leased to the state or in the entity holding title to the property, for exemption from such disclosure of any beneficial interest which is represented by stock in any corporation registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or registered pursuant to chapter 517, which stock is for sale to the general public, and for exemption from

such disclosure of any leasehold interest in property located outside the territorial boundaries of the United States.

- (i) For full disclosure of the names of all public officials, agents, or employees holding any interest in any privately owned property leased to the state or in the entity holding title to the property, and the nature and extent of their interest, for exemption from such disclosure of any beneficial interest which is represented by stock in any corporation registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission or registered pursuant to chapter 517, which stock is for sale to the general public, and for exemption from such disclosure of any leasehold interest in property located outside the territorial boundaries of the United States.
- (j) A method for reporting leases for nominal or no consideration.
- Association (BOMA) Metropolitan Base Building Classification, or equivalent, as a standard method for rating the quality of privately owned buildings. When practical, A or B class space according to BOMA standards shall be utilized For a lease of less than 5,000 square feet, a method for certification by the agency head or the agency head's designated representative that all criteria for leasing have been fully complied with and for the filing of a copy of such lease and all supporting documents with the department for its review and approval as to technical sufficiency.
- (5) The department of Management Services shall prepare a form listing all conditions and requirements adopted pursuant to this chapter which must be met by any state agency leasing any

building or part thereof. This form shall be certified by the agency head or the agency head's designated representative.

- Section 3. Section 255.25, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 255.25 <u>Leasing</u> Approval required prior to construction or lease of buildings.--
- (1)(a) No state agency may lease space in a private building that is to be constructed for state use unless prior approval of the architectural design and preliminary construction plans is first obtained from the department of Management Services.
- has procured a lease in its name, and the department as to leases executed by the department, shall monitor market conditions and shall initiate negotiations for each lease of a privately owned building held in the private sector to effect the best overall lease terms reasonably available to the state that agency. Amendments to leases may be permitted to modify any lease provisions or any other terms or conditions, except to the extent specifically prohibited by this chapter. The Department of Management Services shall serve as a mediator in lease renegotiations if the agency and the lessor are unable to reach a compromise within 6 months of renegotiation and if either the agency or lessor requests the Department of Management Services' intervention.
- (c) When specifically authorized by the Appropriations Act and in accordance with s. 255.2501, if applicable, the department of Management Services may enter into approve a lease-purchase, sale-leaseback, or tax-exempt leveraged lease

Page 9 of 25

contract or other financing technique for the acquisition, renovation, or construction of a state fixed capital outlay project when it is in the best interest of the state.

- (d) The department, in seeking economies of scale and the opportunity to colocate agencies, may competitively negotiate to procure new leases, renegotiate existing leases, or otherwise consolidate existing leases into a large scale lease or leases covering large areas, buildings, or groups of buildings. The department may promulgate rules providing procedures for procuring large scale leases, managing large scale leases, and providing a method for allocation of lease costs between agencies.
- (2)(a) Except as provided in s. 255.2501, no state agency may lease or occupy a state-owned building or privately owned a building, or any part thereof, unless prior approval of the lease conditions and of the need therefor is first obtained from the department of Management Services. Any approved lease may include an option to purchase or an option to renew the lease, or both, upon such terms and conditions acceptable to as are established by the department subject to final approval by the head of the Department of Management Services and in compliance with s. 255.2502.
- (b) An agency allowed to directly procure a The approval of the Department of Management Services, except for technical sufficiency, need not be obtained for the lease or an extension of a lease shall comply of less than 5,000 square feet of space within a privately owned building, provided the agency head or the agency head's designated representative has certified compliance with applicable leasing criteria as may be provided

pursuant to this section and s. 255.249(4)(k) and shall determine that has determined such lease is to be in the best interest of the state. Such a lease which is for a term extending beyond the end of a fiscal year is subject to the provisions of ss. 216.311, 255.2502, and 255.2503.

- (c) The department of Management Services shall adopt as a rule uniform leasing procedures for use by the department and by agencies who may directly procure space each state agency other than the Department of Transportation. Each state agency shall ensure that the leasing practices of that agency are in substantial compliance with the uniform leasing rules adopted under this section and ss. 255.249, 255.2502, and 255.2503.
- (3)(a) Except as provided in subsection (10), no state agency shall enter into a lease as lessee for the use of 5,000 square feet or more of space in a privately owned building except upon advertisement for and receipt of competitive bids and award to the lowest and best bidder. The Department of Management Services shall have the authority to approve a lease for 5,000 square feet or more of space that covers more than 1 fiscal year, subject to the provisions of ss. 216.311, 255.2501, 255.2502, and 255.2503, if such lease is, in the judgment of the department, in the best interests of the state. This paragraph does not apply to buildings or facilities of any size leased for the purpose of providing care and living space for persons.
- (b) The department, or an agency that may procure its own space, of Management Services may negotiate with the owner of a privately owned building to enter into an extension approve extensions of an existing lease of 5,000 square feet or more of space if such extension is extensions are determined to be in

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HB 1891 2004 the best interests of the state., but in no case shall the total of such extensions exceed 11 months. If at the end of the 11th month an agency still needs that space, it shall be procured by competitive bid in accordance with s. 255.249(4)(b). However, an agency that determines that it is in its best interest to remain in the space it currently occupies may negotiate a replacement <del>lease with the lessor if an</del> In determining the best interests of the state, the department or agency shall utilize an independent comparative market analysis to show demonstrates that the negotiated lease rate for the extension is rates offered are within market rates for comparable the space, that and the cost of the extension new lease does not exceed the cost of a comparable space lease plus documented moving costs, and that the space will continue to adequately serve the public. A present-value analysis and the consumer price index shall be used in the calculation of lease costs. The term of the replacement lease may not exceed the base term of the expiring <del>lease.</del>

(b)(e) Any person who files an action <u>pursuant to s.</u>

120.57(3)(b) protesting a decision or intended decision

pertaining to a competitive <u>solicitation</u> bid for space to be

leased by <u>an the agency or the department pursuant to s.</u>

120.57(3)(b) shall post with the state agency <u>or department, as appropriate</u>, at the time of filing the formal written protest a bond payable to the agency <u>or department</u> in an amount equal to 1 percent of the estimated total rental of the basic lease period or \$7,500 \$5,000, whichever is greater, which bond shall be conditioned upon the payment of all costs which may be adjudged against the protestor him or her in the administrative hearing

in which the action is brought and in any subsequent appellate court proceeding. If the agency or department prevails after completion of the administrative hearing process and any appellate court proceedings, it shall recover all costs and charges which shall be included in the final order or judgment, excluding attorney's fees. Upon payment of such costs and charges by the person protesting the award, the bond shall be returned to him or her. If the person protesting the award prevails, the bond shall be returned to that person and he or she shall recover from the agency or department all costs and charges which shall be included in the final order of judgment, excluding attorney's fees.

(c)(d) The agency or department and the lessor, when entering into a lease for 5,000 or more square feet of a privately owned building, shall, before the effective date of the lease, agree upon and separately state the cost of tenant improvements which may qualify for reimbursement if the lease is terminated before the expiration of its base term. The department shall serve as mediator if the agency and the lessor are unable to agree. The amount agreed upon and stated shall, if appropriated, be amortized over the original base term of the lease on a straight-line basis.

(d)(e) The unamortized portion of tenant improvements, if appropriated, will be paid in equal monthly installments over the remaining term of the lease. If any portion of the original leased premises is occupied after termination but during the original term by a tenant that does not require material changes to the premises, the repayment of the cost of tenant improvements applicable to the occupied but unchanged portion

shall be abated during occupancy. The portion of the repayment to be abated shall be based on the ratio of leased space to unleased space.

- conducting its own leasing, of Management Services shall not authorize any state agency to enter into a lease agreement for space in a privately owned building when suitable space is available in a state-owned building located in the same geographic region, unless except upon presentation to the department or the agency, as appropriate, prepares of sufficient written justification why, acceptable to the department, that a separate space is required in order to fulfill the statutory duties of the agency making such request. The term "state-owned building" as used in this subsection means any state-owned facility regardless of use or control.
- (b) The department State agencies shall cooperate with local governmental units by using suitable, existing publicly owned facilities, subject to the provisions of ss. 255.2501, 255.2502, and 255.2503. Agencies may utilize unexpended funds appropriated for lease payments to:
- 1. pay the local government a reasonable their proportion of operating costs, and to-
  - 2. renovate space assigned applicable spaces.
- (5) Before construction or renovation of any state-owned building or state-leased space is commenced, the Department of Management Services shall ascertain, by submission of proposed plans to the Division of State Fire Marshal for review, that the proposed construction or renovation plan complies with the uniform firesafety standards required by the Division of State

2004

HB 1891

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Fire Marshal. The review of construction or renovation plans for state-leased space shall be completed within 10 calendar days of receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal. The review of construction or renovation plans for a state-owned building shall be completed within 30 calendar days of receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal. The responsibility for submission and retrieval of the plans called for in this subsection shall not be imposed on the design architect or engineer, but shall be the responsibility of the two agencies. Whenever the Division of State Fire Marshal determines that a construction or renovation plan is not in compliance with such uniform firesafety standards, the Division of State Fire Marshal may issue an order to cease all construction or renovation activities until compliance is obtained, except those activities required to achieve such compliance. The Department of Management Services shall withhold approval of any proposed lease until the construction or renovation plan complies with the uniform firesafety standards of the Division of State Fire Marshal. The cost of all modifications or renovations made for the purpose of bringing leased property into compliance with the uniform firesafety standards shall be borne by the lessor. (6) Before construction or substantial improvement of any state-owned building is commenced, the Department of Management

state-owned building is commenced, the Department of Management Services must ascertain that the proposed construction or substantial improvement complies with the flood plain management criteria for mitigation of flood hazards, as prescribed in the October 1, 1986, rules and regulations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the department shall monitor the project

to assure compliance with the criteria. In accordance with chapter 120, the Department of Management Services shall adopt any necessary rules to ensure that all such proposed state construction and substantial improvement of state buildings in designated flood-prone areas complies with the flood plain management criteria. Whenever the department determines that a construction or substantial improvement project is not in compliance with the established flood plain management criteria, the department may issue an order to cease all construction or improvement activities until compliance is obtained, except those activities required to achieve such compliance.

(5)(7) This section does not apply to any lease having a term of less than 120 consecutive days for the purpose of securing the one-time special use of the leased property or - This section does not apply to any lease for nominal or no consideration.

(8) No agency shall enter into more than one lease for space in the same privately owned facility or complex within any 12-month period except upon the solicitation of competitive bids.

(9) Specialized educational facilities, excluding classrooms, shall be exempt from the competitive bid requirements for leasing pursuant to this section if the executive head of any state agency certifies in writing that said facility is available from a single source and that the competitive bid requirements would be detrimental to the state. Such certification shall include documentation of evidence of steps taken to determine sole-source status.

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(6)<del>(10)</del> The department of Management Services may approve emergency acquisition of space without competitive solicitation bids if existing state-owned or state-leased space is destroyed or rendered uninhabitable by an act of God, fire, malicious destruction, or structural failure, or by legal action, if the chief administrator of the state agency or the chief administrator's designated representative certifies in writing that no other agency-controlled space is available to meet this emergency need, but in no case shall the lease for such space exceed 11 months. If the lessor elects not to replace or renovate the destroyed or uninhabitable facility, the agency or department, as applicable, shall procure the needed space by competitive solicitation bid in accordance with s. 255.249(4)(b). If the lessor elects to replace or renovate the destroyed or uninhabitable facility and the construction or renovations will not be complete at the end of the 11-month lease, the agency or department may modify the lease to extend the temporary lease it on a month-to-month basis for up to an additional 6 months to allow completion of such construction or renovations.

(7)(11) In any leasing of space that is accomplished without competition, the individuals taking part in the development or selection of criteria for evaluation, in the evaluation, and in the award processes shall attest in writing that they are independent of, and have no conflict of interest in, the entities evaluated and selected.

Section 4. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 255.25001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

255.25001 Suspension or delay of specified functions, programs, and requirements relating to governmental operations.--Notwithstanding the provisions of:

- (2) Sections 253.025 and 255.25, the Department of Management Services has the authority to promulgate rules pursuant to chapter 120 to be used in determining whether a lease-purchase of a state-owned office building is in the best interests of the state, which rules provide:
- (b) Procedures and document formats for the advertisement, competitive <u>procurement</u> bid process, including format of submissions, and evaluation of lease-purchase acquisition proposals for state-owned office buildings. The evaluation process shall include but not be limited to the following:
- 1. A consideration of the cost of comparable operating leases.
- 2. The appraised value of the facility as required by s. 253.025.
- 3. A present value analysis of the proposed payment stream.
  - 4. The cost of financing the facility to be acquired.
  - 5. The cost to repair identified physical defects.
  - 6. The cost to remove identified hazardous substances.
  - 7. An energy analysis.

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8. A determination of who is responsible for management and maintenance activities.

In order to minimize the cost of the evaluation process, the
Department of Management Services may develop a multistage

evaluation process to identify the most cost-efficient proposals

Page 18 of 25

for extensive evaluation. The studies developed as a result of this evaluation process shall be considered confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) to the same extent that appraisal reports are considered confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) as provided in s. 253.025(6)(d)

524 253.025(6)(d).

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 255.2501, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

255.2501 Lease of space financed with local government obligations.--

- (2) No lease, lease-purchase, sale-leaseback, purchase, or rental of any office space, building, real property and improvements thereto, or any other fixed capital outlay project that is or is to be financed with local government obligations of any type shall be requested for approval in the Appropriations Act unless:
- (a) The construction for such project is to be or has been competitively <u>procured</u> <del>bid</del> unless the certificate of occupancy for such project was issued more than 3 years prior to the time such request is made;
- (b) The executive branch agency or department making the request has competitively <u>procured</u> <del>bid</del> its space needs prior to making such request <del>and the project for which approval is sought</del> was the lowest and best bidder for such needs; and
- (c) The rent, lease payment, lease-purchase payment, or other payment for such project is not greater than an amount equal to the same proportion of the debt service on the local government obligations to be issued to finance or which are outstanding that financed, as the case may be, the facility or

Page 19 of 25

project for which approval is sought that the executive agency or department seeking such approval will utilize under the lease, lease-purchase, sale-leaseback, purchase, or rental of the project in the facility or project as compared to the entire facility or project that is to be or was financed. This paragraph shall not apply when the certificate of occupancy for a facility or project was issued more than 3 years prior to the time such request is made.

Section 6. Section 255.45, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 255.45 <u>Safety in Correction of firesafety violations in</u> certain state-owned and state-leased property.--
- (1) The Department of Management Services is responsible for ensuring that firesafety violations that are noted by the State Fire Marshal pursuant to s. 633.085 are corrected as soon as practicable for all state-owned property which is leased from the Department of Management Services.
- building or privately owned building to be occupied by the state is commenced, the Department of Management Services shall ascertain, by submission of proposed plans to the Division of State Fire Marshal for review, that the proposed construction or renovation plan complies with the uniform firesafety standards required by the Division of State Fire Marshal. The review of construction or renovation plans for a privately owned building shall be completed within 10 calendar days after receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal. The review of construction or renovation plans for a state-owned building shall be completed within 30 calendar days after receipt of the

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HB 1891

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577 plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal. The responsibility 578 for submission and retrieval of the plans called for in this 579 subsection shall not be imposed on the design architect or 580 engineer, but shall be the responsibility of the Department of Management Services. If the Division of State Fire Marshal 581 582 determines that a construction or renovation plan is not in 583 compliance with the uniform firesafety standards, the Division 584 of State Fire Marshal may issue an order to cease all 585 construction or renovation activities until compliance is 586 obtained, except those activities required to achieve such 587 compliance. The Department of Management Services shall withhold 588 approval of any proposed lease until the construction or 589 renovation plan complies with the uniform firesafety standards 590 of the Division of State Fire Marshal. The cost of all modifications or renovations made for the purpose of bringing 591 592 leased property into compliance with the uniform firesafety 593 standards shall be borne by the lessor.

(3) Before construction or substantial improvement of any state-owned building is commenced, the Department of Management Services must ascertain that the proposed construction or substantial improvement complies with the flood plain management criteria for mitigation of flood hazards, as prescribed in the October 1, 1986, rules and regulations of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The department shall monitor the project to assure compliance with the criteria. The Department of Management Services shall adopt rules to ensure that all such proposed state construction and substantial improvement of state-owned buildings in designated flood-prone areas complies with the flood plain management criteria. In any instance where

the department has determined that a construction or substantial improvement project is not in compliance with the established flood plain management criteria, the department may issue an order to cease all construction or improvement activities until compliance is obtained, except those activities required to achieve such compliance.

Section 7. Subsection (9) of section 255.503, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

255.503 Powers of the Department of Management Services.—The Department of Management Services shall have all the authority necessary to carry out and effectuate the purposes and provisions of this act, including, but not limited to, the authority to:

(9) Engage the services of consultants for rendering professional and technical assistance and advice and to engage services of professionals in connection with the acquisition, management, disposition, or financing of any facility or the operation and activities of the Department of Management Services, including attorneys, auditors, consultants, and accountants.

Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment to section 255.45, Florida Statutes, in a reference thereto, section 633.085, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to read:

633.085 Inspections of state buildings and premises; tests of firesafety equipment; building plans to be approved.--

(1)(a) It is the duty of the State Fire Marshal and her or his agents to inspect, or cause to be inspected, each state-owned building on a recurring basis established by rule, and to ensure that high-hazard occupancies are inspected at least

annually, for the purpose of ascertaining and causing to be corrected any conditions liable to cause fire or endanger life from fire and any violation of the firesafety standards for state-owned buildings, the provisions of this chapter, or the rules or regulations adopted and promulgated pursuant hereto. The State Fire Marshal shall, within 7 days following an inspection, submit a report of such inspection to the head of the department of state government responsible for the building.

- (b) Except as provided in s. 255.45, the department head is responsible for ensuring that deficiencies noted in the inspection are corrected as soon as practicable.
- (c) Each department shall, in its annual budget proposal, include requests for sufficient funds to correct any firesafety deficiencies noted by the State Fire Marshal.
- (d) Each department shall, in its annual budget proposal and for all proposals for new construction or renovations to existing structures, include requests for sufficient funds to pay for any charges or fees imposed by the State Fire Marshal for review of plans, renovations, occupancy, or inspections, whether recurring or high hazard.
- (2) The State Fire Marshal and her or his agents shall conduct performance tests on any electronic fire warning and smoke detection system, and any pressurized air-handling unit, in any state-owned or state-leased space on a recurring basis as provided in subsection (1). The State Fire Marshal and her or his agents shall also ensure that fire drills are conducted in all state-owned or state-leased high-hazard occupancies at least annually.

(3) All construction of any new, or renovation, alteration, or change of occupancy of any existing, state-owned or state-leased space shall comply with the uniform firesafety standards of the State Fire Marshal.

- (a) For all new construction or renovation, alteration, or change of occupancy of state-leased space, compliance with the uniform firesafety standards shall be determined by reviewing the plans for the proposed construction or occupancy submitted by the lessor to the Division of State Fire Marshal for review and approval prior to commencement of construction or occupancy, which review shall be completed within 10 working days after receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal.
- (b) The plans for all construction of any new, or renovation or alteration of any existing, state-owned building are subject to the review and approval of the Division of State Fire Marshal for compliance with the uniform firesafety standards prior to commencement of construction or change of occupancy, which review shall be completed within 30 calendar days of receipt of the plans by the Division of State Fire Marshal.
- (4) The Division of State Fire Marshal may inspect stateowned space and state-leased space as necessary prior to
  occupancy or during construction, renovation, or alteration to
  ascertain compliance with the uniform firesafety standards.
  Whenever the Division of State Fire Marshal determines by virtue
  of such inspection or by review of plans that construction,
  renovation, or alteration of state-owned and state-leased space
  is not in compliance with the uniform firesafety standards, the
  Division of State Fire Marshal shall issue an order to cease

construction, renovation, or alteration, or to preclude occupancy, of a building until compliance is obtained, except for those activities required to achieve such compliance.

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- (5) The Division of State Fire Marshal shall by rule provide a schedule of fees to pay for the costs of the inspections, whether recurring or high hazard, any firesafety review or plans for proposed construction, renovations, or occupancy, and related administrative expenses.
- Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.